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SINDE.

No. 1.

Treaty with the Ameers of Sinde, of August 22, 1809.

ARTICLE I.—There shall be eternal friendship between the British Government and that of Sinde, namely, Meer Gholam Ali, Meer Kurreem Ali, and Meer Moorad Ali.

Article II.—Enmity shall never appear between the two States.

Article III.—The mutual dispatch of the vakeels of both Governments, namely, the British Government and Sindian Government, shall always continue.

Article IV.—The Government of Sinde will not allow the establishment of the tribe of the French in Sinde.

Written on the 10th of the month of Rujeeb-ool-Moorujub, in the year of the Hegira 1224, corresponding with the 21st of August, 1809.

No. 2.

Treaty between the East India Company on the one hand, and the Ameers of Sinde on the other, of November 9, 1820.

THE British Government and the Government of Sinde having in view to guard against the occurrence of frontier disputes, and to strengthen the friendship already subsisting between the two States, Meer Ismael Shah was invested with full power to treat with the Honorable the Governor of Bombay, and the following Articles were agreed on between the two Parties:—

Article I.—There shall be perpetual friendship between the British Government on the one hand, and Meer Kurreem Ali and Meer Moorad Ali on the other.

Article II.—Mutual intercourse by means of vakeels shall always continue between the two Governments.

Article III.—The Ameers of Sinde engage not to permit any European or American to settle in their dominions. If any of the subjects of either of the two States should establish their residence in the dominions of the other, and should conduct themselves in an orderly and peaceable manner in the territory to which they may emigrate, they will be allowed to remain in that situation; but if such fugitives shall be guilty of any disturbance or com-

motion, it will be incumbent on the local authority to take the offenders into custody, and punish or compel them to quit the country.

Article IV.—The Ameers of Sinde engage to restrain the depredations of the Khoosas, and all other tribes and individuals within their limits, and to prevent the occurrence of any inroad into the British dominions.

Bombay, 9th November, 1820.

Note.—The foregoing Treaty was approved by the Supreme Government on the 10th February, 1821.

No. 3.

Treaty of Peace between the East India Company and the State of Khyrpore, April 4, 1832.

ARTICLE I.—There shall be eternal friendship between the two States.

Article II.—The two contracting powers mutually bind themselves from generation to generation, never to look with the eye of covetousness on the possessions of each other.

Article III.—The British Government having requested the use of the river Indus, and the roads of Sinde, for the merchants of Hindoostan, &c., the Government of Khyrpore agrees to grant the same within its own boundaries on whatever terms may be settled with the Government of Hyderabad, namely Meer Moorad Ali Khan Talpoor.

Article IV.—The Government of Khyrpore agrees to furnish a written statement of just and reasonable duties to be levied on all goods passing under this treaty, and further promises that traders shall suffer no loss or hindrance in transacting their business.

Dated the 2nd of Zeekaud, 1247 Hegira, corresponding with the 4th day of April, A. D., 1832.

No. 4.

Treaty concluded between the East India Company and Meer Moorad Ali Khan, Ruler of Hyderabad in Sinde, April 20, 1832.

ARTICLE I.—That the friendship provided for in former Treaties between the British Government and that of Sinde, remain unimpaired and binding; and that this stipulation has received additional efficacy through the medium of Lieutenant-Colonel Pottinger, Envoy, &c., so that the firm connexion and close alliance now formed between the said States shall descend to the children and successors of the house of the above-named Meer Moorad Ali Khan, principal after principal, from generation to generation.

Article II.—That the two Contracting Powers bind themselves never to look with the eye of covetousness on the possessions of each other.

Article III.—That the British Government has requested a passage for the merchants and traders of Hindoostan by the river and roads of Sinde, by which they may transport their goods and merchandize from one country to another; and the said Government of Hyderabad hereby acquiesces in the same request, on the three following conditions:—

1. That no person shall bring any description of military stores by the above river or roads.

2. That no armed vessels or boats shall come by the said river.

3. That no English merchants shall be allowed to settle in Sinde, but shall come as occasion requires, and, having stopped to transact their business, shall return to India.

Article IV.—When merchants shall determine on visiting Sinde, they shall obtain a passport to do so from the British Government; and due intimation of the granting of such passport shall be made to the said Government of Hyderabad by the Resident in Cutch, or other officer of the said British Government.

Article V.—That the Government of Hyderabad, having fixed certain proper and moderate duties to be levied on merchandize and goods proceeding by the aforesaid routes, shall adhere to that scale, and not arbitrarily and despotically either increase or lessen the same, so that the affairs of merchants and traders may be carried on without stop or interruption; and the Custom-house officers and farmers of revenue of the Sinde Government are to be specially directed to see that they do not delay the said merchants on pretence of awaiting for fresh orders from the Government, or in the collection of the duties; and the said Government is to promulgate a tariff, or table of duties leviable on each kind of goods, as the case may be.

Article VI.—That whatever portions of former Treaties entered into between the two States have not been altered and modified by the present one, remain firm and unaltered, as well as those stipulations now concluded; and, by the blessing of God, no deviation from them shall ever take place.

Article VII.—That the friendly intercourse between the two States shall be kept up by the dispatch of vakeels, whenever the transaction of business or the increase of the relations of friendship may render it desirable.

Written on the 18th Zeekaud, 1247 Hegira, corresponding with the 20th of April, 1832.

No. 5.

Supplementary Treaty between the East India Company and the Government of Hyderabad in Sinde, which is to be considered as virtually annulled on the fulfilment of its stipulations, April 22, 1832.

ARTICLE I.—It is inserted in the Fifth Article of the perpetual Treaty, that the Government of Hyderabad will furnish the British Government with a statement of duties., &c.; and after that, the officers of the British Government who are versed in affairs of traffic, will examine the said statement; should the statement seem to them to be fair and equitable, and agreeable to custom, it will be brought into operation, and will be confirmed; but should it appear too high, his Highness Meer Moorad Ali Khan, on hearing from the British Government to this effect, through Colonel Pottinger, will reduce the said duties.

Article II.—It is as clear as noon-day, that the punishment and suppression of the plunderers of Parkur, the Thale, &c., is not to be effected by any one Government; and as this measure is incumbent on, and becoming the States, as tending to secure the welfare and happiness of their respective subjects and countries, it is hereby stipulated that, on the commencement of the ensuing rainy season, and of which Meer Moorad Ali Khan shall give due

notice, the British, Sinde, and Joudpore Governments, shall direct their joint and simultaneous efforts to the above object.

Article III.—The Governments of the Honorable East India Company and of Khyrpore, namely, Meer Roostum, have provided, in a Treaty concluded between the States, that whatever may be settled regarding the opening of the Indus at Hyderabad, shall be binding on the said Contracting Powers; it is, therefore, necessary that copies of the Treaty should be sent by the British and Hyderabad Governments to Meer Roostum Khan, for his satisfaction and guidance.

Written on the 20th of Zeekaud, 1247 Hegira, corresponding with the 22nd of April, 1832.

No. 6.

Commercial Treaty between the East India Company and the Government of Hyderabad in Sinde; published by Proclamation, on the 23rd of December, 1834, by order of the Governor-General of India in Council.

WHEREAS in the First Article of the Supplemental Treaty concluded between the Honorable East India Company and the Government of Hyderabad, on the 22nd day of April, 1832, corresponding with the 20th of Zeekaud, 1247 Hegira, it was stipulated that the Government of Hyderabad was to furnish the British Government with a statement of duties, &c., and "after that the officers of the British Government who are versed in affairs of traffic, shall have examined the same statement, should the statement seem to them to be fair and equitable, and agreeable to custom, it will be brought into operation, and will be confirmed; but should it appear too high, his Highness Meer Moorad Ali Khan, on hearing from the British Government to this effect, through Colonel Pottinger, will reduce the said duties." Now, according to the terms of the above stipulation, the Contracting States, having made due inquiry, hereby enter into the following agreement:—

Article I.—In lieu of a duty on goods proceeding up or down the River Indus, in virtue of the Fifth Article of the perpetual Treaty of Hyderabad, there shall be levied on the rivers between the Sea and Rooper, a toll on each boat, of nineteen Tatta rupees per Tatta khurrar, of which amount eight rupees shall be receivable by the Government of Hyderabad and Khyrpore, and eleven rupees by the other States possessing dominions on the banks of the rivers, namely, His Highness Bhawul Khan, Maharajah Runjeet Sing, and the Honorable the East India Company.

Article II.—To obviate any cause whatever of trouble or inconvenience to traders and merchants during their progress, and also to prevent disputes and doubts, and consequent altercation and delay, touching the size of boats, the toll is fixed on thirty Tatta khurrars. Be a boat large or small, she will pay toll according to this; and whether she measures five khurrahs or one hundred khurrahs, she will be reckoned as one of thirty.

Article III.—The portion of the toll above described, appertaining to Sinde, and amounting to 240 Tatta rupees on each boat, shall be levied at the bunder or port at the mouth of the river where the cargoes are transferred from the river to the sea-boats, and *vice versâ*, and divided as the Governments of Hyderabad and Khyrpore may think best.

Article IV.—For the purpose of assisting in the realization of the toll due to Sinde, also in the speedy and satisfactory adjustment of disputes which may happen to occur amongst the merchants, boatmen, and others, on the questions

of hire, &c., as well as with a view to the preservation and augmentation of the amicable relations which happily subsist between the States, it is settled that a British Agent (who shall not be an European gentleman), under the authority of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Pottinger, Agent to the Governor-General of India for the affairs of Sinde, shall reside at the bunder or port at the mouth of the river where cargoes are transferred from one description of boat to another; and the British Government binds itself that the said agent shall neither engage in trade, nor interfere in any way with the fiscal, or any other, affairs of the Sinde Government. It is further settled that, when occasions connected with this Treaty may render it advisable, the Governor-General's Agent for the affairs of Sinde shall have the power of deputing one of his assistants to the above-described bunder or port, to settle any discussions that may have arisen; after doing which, he is to return to Bhooj.

Article V.—For the more perfect fulfilment of this Treaty, it is hereby distinctly stipulated, that should any portion, however small or great, or of whatever description, of the merchandize or goods on board any boat passing up or down the river, be landed for sale by a merchant or merchants, such portion of merchandize or goods, whatever may be its quantity or quality, shall instantly become subject to the existing local duties, as levied by the respective Governments within their own territories; the purpose of the toll agreed to by this Treaty being, not to supersede or set aside the established dues of the different States, but to repay the expense to which the Governments will necessarily be subjected in affording the customary protection to the trade in transit on the river. It will be perfectly understood from this Fifth Article, that the Governments have no claim to duties on merchandize merely passing up or down the river, and that the toll is all that is to be demanded; but should any portion, however small or large, of goods, be landed and sold, then the usual duties will be levied.

No. 7.

Treaty between the East India Company and the Ameers of Sinde, concluded by Colonel Henry Pottinger, Agent to the Governor-General for Sinde, on the one part, and their Highnesses Meer Noor Mahomed Khan and Meer Nusseer Mahomed Nusseer Khan, on the other, April 20, 1838.

ARTICLE I.—In consideration of the long friendship which has subsisted between the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde, the Governor-General in Council engages to use his good offices to adjust the present differences which are understood to subsist between the Ameers of Sinde and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, so that peace and friendship may be established between the two States.

Article II.—In order to secure and improve the relations of amity and peace which have so long subsisted between the Sinde State and the British Government, it is agreed that an accredited British Minister shall reside at the Court of Hyderabad, and that the Ameers of Sinde shall also be at liberty to depute a vakeel to reside at the Court of the British Government; and that the British Minister shall be empowered to change his ordinary place of residence as may, from time to time, seem expedient, and be attended by such an escort as may be deemed suitable by his Government.

Ratified by the Governor-General at Simla, this 20th day of April, 1838.

No. 8.

Treaty between the British Government, Runjeet Sing and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, concluded at Lahore on the 26th June, 1838.

WHEREAS a Treaty was formerly concluded between Maharajah Runjeet Sing and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, consisting of fourteen articles, exclusive of the preamble and the conclusion: and whereas the execution of the provisions of the said Treaty was suspended for certain reasons: and whereas at this time Mr. W. H. Macnaghten having been deputed by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G. C. B., Governor-General of India, to the presence of Maharajah Runjeet Sing, and vested with full powers to form a Treaty in a manner consistent with the friendly engagements subsisting between the two States, the Treaty aforesaid is received and concluded, with certain modifications; and four new articles have been added thereto, with the approbation of, and in concert with, the British Government, the provisions whereof, as contained in the following eighteen articles, will be duly and faithfully observed:—

I. Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk disclaims all title on the part of himself, his heirs, successors, and all the Suddozyes, to whatever territories lying on either bank of the River Indus may be possessed by the Maharajah, viz.; Cashmere, including its limits E. W. N. S., together with the fort of Attock, Chetch, Hezara, Khebel, Aub, with its dependencies, on the left bank of the aforesaid river; and, on the right bank, Peshawur, with the Eusofzye territory, Kheteks, Hesht, Nagor, Meehnee, Cohaut, Hungoo, and all the places dependent on Peshawur, as far as the Khyber Pass; Bennoo, the Vezeeree territory, Dour, Tonk, Gorauk, Kalabagh, and Kushal Ghur, with their dependent districts, Dera Ismael Khan, and its dependency, together with Dera Ghazee Khan, Kote Mitthun, Omerkote, and their dependent territory, Singhur, Heren, Dajel, Hajeepoor, Rajenpore, and the three Ketches; as well as Mankera, with its district, and the Province of Mooltan, situated on the left bank. These countries and places are considered to be the property, and to form the estate of the Maharajah: and the Shah neither has, nor will have, any concern with them; they belong to the Maharajah and his posterity, from generation to generation.

II. The people of the country on the other side of Khyber, will not be suffered to commit robberies or aggressions, or any disturbances, on this side. If any defaulter of either State, who has embezzled the revenue, take refuge in the territory of the other, each Party engages to surrender him; and no person shall obstruct the passage of the stream which issues out of the Khyber defile, and supplies the fort of Futtyghur with water, according to ancient usage.

III. As, agreeably to the treaty established between the British Government and the Maharajah, no one can cross from the left to the right bank of the Sutledj without a passport from the Maharajah, the same rule shall be observed regarding the passage of the Indus, whose waters join the Sutledj, and no one shall be allowed to cross the Indus without the Maharajah's permission.

IV. Regarding Shikarpore and the territory of Sinde lying on the right bank of the Indus, the Shah will agree to abide by whatever may be settled as right and proper, in conformity with the happy relations of friendship subsisting between the British Government and the Maharajah, through Captain Wade.

V. When the Shah shall have established his authority in Cabool and Candahar, he will annually send the Maharajah the following articles, viz.: 55 high-bred horses, of approved colour and pleasant paces, 11 Persian scimiters, 7 Persian poniards, 25 good mules, fruits of various kinds, both dry and fresh, and sirdas or musk melons, of a sweet and delicate flavour (to be sent

throughout the year), by the way of Cabool River to Peshawur; grapes, pomegranates, apples, quinces, almonds, raisins, pistahs or chronuts, an abundant supply of each; as well as pieces of satin of every colour, chogas of fur, kimkhabs wrought with gold and silver, and Persian carpets, altogether to the number of 101 pieces. All these articles the Shah will continue to send every year to the Maharajah.

VI. Each party shall address the other on terms of equality.

VII. Merchants of Affghanistan who may be desirous of trading to Lahore, Umritsir, or any other parts of the Maharajah's possessions, shall not be stopped or molested on their way; on the contrary, strict orders shall be issued to facilitate their intercourse, and the Maharajah engages to observe the same line of conduct on his part with respect to traders who may wish to proceed to Affghanistan.

VIII. The Maharajah will yearly send to the Shah the following articles, in the way of friendship:—55 pieces of shawls, 25 pieces of muslin, 11 dooputtahs, 5 pieces of kimkhab, 5 scarfs, 5 turbans, 55 loads of Bareh rice (peculiar to Peshawur).

IX. Any of the Maharajah's officers who may be deputed to Affghanistan to purchase horses, or on any other business, as well as those who may be sent by the Shah into the Punjab for the purpose of purchasing piece-goods, or shawls, &c., to the amount of 11,000 rupees, will be treated by both sides with due attention, and every facility will be afforded to them in the execution of their commissions.

X. Whenever the armies of the two States may happen to be assembled at the same place, on no account shall the slaughter of kine be permitted to take place.

XI. In the event of the Shah taking an auxiliary force from the Maharajah, whatever booty may be acquired from the Barukzyes in jewels, horses, arms, great and small, shall be equally divided between the two Contracting Parties. If the Shah should succeed in obtaining possession of their property without the assistance of the Maharajah's troops, the Shah agrees to send a portion of it by his own agent to the Maharajah, in the way of friendship.

XII. An exchange of missions charged with letters and presents, shall constantly take place between the two Parties.

XIII. Should the Maharajah require the aid of any of the Shah's troops, in furtherance of the objects contemplated by this Treaty, the Shah engages to send a force, commanded by one of his principal officers. In like manner, the Maharajah will furnish the Shah, when required, with an auxiliary force, composed of Mahomedans and commanded by one of his principal officers, as far as Cabool, in furtherance of the objects contemplated by this Treaty. When the Maharajah may go to Peshawur, the Shah will depute a Shahzadah to visit him, on which occasions the Maharajah will receive and dismiss him with the honour and consideration due to his rank and dignity.

XIV. The friends and enemies of each of the three high Powers; that is to say, the British and Sikh Governments and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; shall be the friends and enemies of all.

XV. Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk engages, after the attainment of his object, to pay without fail to the Maharajah the sum of two lacs of rupees, of the Nanuk shahee, or Kuldar currency, calculating from the date on which the Sikh troops may be dispatched for the purpose of reinstating His Majesty in Cabool, in consideration of the Maharajah stationing a force of not less than 5,000 men, cavalry and infantry, of the Mahomedan persuasion, within the limits of the

Peshawur territory for the support of the Shah, and to be sent to the aid of His Majesty, whenever the British Government, in concert and counsel with the Maharajah, shall deem their aid necessary; and when any matter of great importance may arise to the westward, such measures will be adopted with regard to it, as may seem expedient and proper, at the time, to the British and Sikh Governments. In the event of the Maharajah requiring the aid of any of the Shah's troops, a deduction shall be made from the subsidy, proportioned to the period for which such aid may be afforded; and the British Government holds itself responsible for the punctual payment of the above sum annually to the Maharajah, so long as the provisions of this Treaty are duly observed.

XVI. Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk agrees to relinquish, for himself, his heirs and successors, all claims of supremacy, and arrears of tribute, over the country now held by the Ameers of Sinde (which will continue to belong to the Ameers and their successors in perpetuity), on condition of the payment to him by the Ameers of such a sum as may be determined, under the mediation of the British Government; 15,00,000 of rupees of such payment being made over by him to Maharajah Runjeet Sing. On these payments being completed, Article IV of the Treaty of 12th March 1833, will be considered cancelled, and the customary interchange of letters and suitable presents between the Maharajah and the Ameers of Sinde shall be maintained as heretofore.

XVII. When Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk shall have succeeded in establishing his authority in Affghanistan, he shallnot attack or molest his nephew, the Ruler of Herat, in the possession of the territories now subject to his government.

XVIII. Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk binds himself, his heirs and successors, to refrain from entering into negotiations with any foreign State without the knowledge and consent of the British and Sikh Governments, and to oppose any Power having the design to invade the Sikh or British territories, by force of arms, to the utmost of his ability.

The three Powers, parties to this Treaty, viz.: the British Government, Maharajah Runjeet Sing, and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, cordially agree to the foregoing articles. There shall be no deviation from them; and in that case the present Treaty shall be considered binding for ever; and this Treaty shall come into operation from and after the date on which the seals and signatures of the three Contracting Parties shall have been affixed thereto.

Done at Lahore, this 26th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1838, corresponding with the 15th of the month of Asarh 1895, æra of Bikarmajit.

No. 9.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, July* 26, 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India, to forward to you, for your information, copies of the following documents:—

Copies of a Tripartite Treaty concluded between the British Government, and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

Copy of a Letter written to Captain Wade, Political Agent at Loodiana, dated the 23rd instant.

Do. of do. to Lieutenant Mackeson, dated the 23rd instant.

Do. of do. from the Governor-General to the Commander-in-chief, of the present date.

Do. of do. to the Envoy Extraordinary in Persia, of the present date.

The measures treated of in those documents are of the hightest importance, and as the Ameers of Sinde are deeply interested in the issue of them, it is necessary that they should be made fully and fairly acquainted with the motives and intentions of the British Government.

You will, in the first place, state to the Ameers that, in the opinion of the Governor General, a crisis has arrived, at which it is essentially requisite for the security of British India, that the real friends of that Power should unequivocally manifest their attachment to its interests; and you will further apprise them that a combination of the Powers to the westward, apparently having objects in view calculated to be injurious to our empire in the East, has compelled the Governor-General to enter into a counter-combination for the purpose of frustrating those objects.

You will perceive that by one of the articles of the treaty recently concluded, the British Government engages to arbitrate the claim of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk upon Shikarpore and the territories of Sinde generally, and proposes at the same time to bring to a final settlement the claims of Maharajah Runjeet Sing, as connected with the Shah, and with the territories along the course of the Indus, which were formerly included in the dominions of the Affghan Kingdom. The Governor-General has not yet determined the amount which the Ameers may be fairly called upon to pay, and it should not therefore immediately be named, but the minimum may certainly be taken at 20 lacs of rupees.

His Lordship will endeavour to prevail upon Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk to reduce the claim which he has on the Ameers, to a reasonable amount; and he trusts that you will have no difficulty in convincing them of the magnitude of the benefits they will derive from securing the undisturbed possession of the territories they now hold, and obtaining immunity for all future claims on this account by a moderate pecuniary sacrifice.

You will not fail to apprise the Ameers that the disposition of the British Government toward them is extremely favourable, and that nothing could distress the Governor-General more than an interruption of the good understanding which has hitherto prevailed between his Government and their Highnesses.

At the same time, it would be uncandid to conceal from their Highnesses that his Lordship expects from them, as sincere friends and near neighbours, some ostensible display in the present exigency, of their attachment to British interests, and some concession on their part to the reasonable wishes of the British Government and its allies.

Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk will probably arrive, with his own army, and the direct support of British troops, at Shikarpore, about the middle of November next, in progress to take possession of the throne of Affghanistan. The Governor-General is averse from contemplating such a result as a refusal on the part of the Ameers to enter into such a composition with His Majesty as the British Government may deem just and reasonable; but it may be proper to apprise them of the probable consequences of their not coming cordially into the general views of his Lordship at a crisis so important; and you are authorized to tell them that his Lordship must regard the demonstration of such a spirit as rendering it indispensably necessary to the success of the enterprise which it is the object of the Tripartite Treaty to accomplish, that temporary occupation should be taken of Shikarpore, and of as much of the country adjacent as may be required to afford a secure base to the intended military operations.

His Lordship is further unwilling to contemplate the contingency of offensive operations being undertaken against the Ameers by the Shah, after he shall have established, by the support of the British Power, his authority in Affghanistan, for the realization of what he may deem his just claims. But the Ameers must be made sensible that if they should now deprive themselves of the advantage of his Lordship's mediation, with a view to effect an immediate favourable compromise, the British Government will be precluded from offering opposition to any measures for the assertion of those claims, which the Shah may eventually determine to adopt.

To your discretion his Lordship willingly confides the season and mode of making a communication of the above nature to the Ameers.

On the one hand, a too early communication of our views may afford the Ameers an opportunity, should they be so inclined, of opposing obstacles to our measures, and, on the other hand, it may be presumed that those measures will soon gain general notoriety, and there would be an obvious impropriety in withholding from the parties chiefly interested the fullest information regarding them.

It has occurred to the Governor-General that your presence at Shikarpore about the period of Shah Shooja's arrival there, might be beneficial to the public interests, provided that the Ameers should have evinced a disposition to come into our views, and to co-operate with us for the common cause.

The occupation of Shikarpore and its dependencies will be in all probability primarily effected by the troops of the Shah under British officers, and by the division of the British army, which will proceed in his support. It will be for subsequent consideration, whether merely for this purpose it may be necessary to call for aid from Bombay, either by Deesa and Balmeer, or by the route of the Indus. While the present exigency lasts, you may apprise the Ameers, that the Article of the Treaty with them, prohibitory of using the Indus for the conveyance of military stores, must necessarily be suspended during the course of operations undertaken for the permanent establishment of security to all those who are parties to that Treaty.

The above observations have been recorded with reference to a state of things such as is supposed to exist, or may reasonably be supposed to occur. If, however, the Ameers of Sinde should have entered into any engagements with the Shah of Persia, such engagements must, in the present crisis of affairs, be considered as indicative of feelings of direct hostility to the British Government, such as cannot be tolerated with regard to the preservation of our interests.

In that case, you have full authority to request the immediate advance of a British force from the Bombay army, such as will suffice to take possession of the capital of Sinde, and you will declare all friendly relations between your own Government and such of the Ameers as may have been parties to the Persian alliance, to have ceased. With any of the Ameers whose cause may be popular in the country, and who may show a disposition to cultivate a British, rather than a Persian alliance, you are authorized to enter into such provisional engagements, subsidiary or otherwise, as may be most advantageous to your own Government, and best calculated to support the supremacy of the Ameer, whose cause we may espouse. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Bombay Government, with especial reference to this and the preceding paragraph.

It has been above stated that the amount of immediate payment, which may reasonably be expected from the Ameers, in consideration of their entire release from all demands of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, on account of arrears and future claims of tribute, has not yet been determined by the Governor-General.

On this point his Lordship would request a full statement of your opinion, on the understanding that it his Lordship's desire to fix the sum with an indulgent dispsition towards the Ameers, though without losing sight of the value which the boon in question should be to them. His Lordship will only add, as a suggestion to aid your opinion on the subject, that the Ameers may fairly be supposed to be wealthy, in consequence of the long suspension of the tribute which was formerly paid to Cabool, and with reference to the known fact that, during this interval, they have not been engaged in any extensive operations.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 10.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sinde Residency, August* 13, 1838.

ABOUT six weeks ago, the Native Agent at Hyderabad reported that he had discovered that the four Ameers of that place had decided on writing to the King of Persia by the hand of one Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, who was then at their capital on his way to the Shah's camp; that whilst this plan was in agitation, the ratified treaty providing for our Resident, and the "agree-

ments," in the names of the junior Ameers, came to hand; that on their receipt Meer Sobdar Khan had withdrawn from the proposed measure, assigning as his reason that our friendship was sufficient for him, as he had no wish to court a closer intimacy with Persia; but that the other Ameers had carried their design into execution, and that he (the Native Agent) had succeeded in getting a sight of Noor Mahomed Khan's original Ureeza to Mahomed Shah, of which he had taken a copy, which he transmitted for my notice, and of which I beg to submit a translation.

2. As the Native Agent did not explain how he had obtained this document, I was led to suspect, especially when I coupled it with Sobdar's declaration, that it was a scheme of that chief and his partizans to excite our suspicions of Noor Mahomed Khan's fidelity. I, therefore, thought it advisable, before I addressed you on the subject, to obtain further particulars from the Native Agent, on whom I called accordingly.

4. It does not seem certain from the preceding facts, that the Ameers Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Khan addressed Ureezas to the Shah, but, if they did, they were, no doubt, the Native Agent says, to the same tenor as Noor Mahomed's. The Hajee who was intrusted with the latter was, by the latest accounts, halted at Larkhana, awaiting money and some supplies, which the Ameers had promised to send after him, but which they had hitherto neglected to do.

5. I do not myself ascribe any immediate political object to this Ureeza. I feel almost certain that it proceeds solely from the bigotry of Sheeaism, of which intolerant sect all the Ameers, with the exception of Sobdar, are rigid followers. It is not, however, to be concealed that the allusion to the messages with which the Hajee is charged will authorize a much more extended and important interpretation of the Ameer's address; and, as a matter which seems already known to so many individuals (for the scribe was sent for to copy the letter at the house of Nurza Bakir Goorgian, where several persons likewise met to discuss the proper style) can hardly be considered a secret, I propose to take an early occasion, after reaching Hyderabad, to introduce the topic to the Ameers, and to demand a categorical declaration of their intentions.

6. The important political events and arrangements which are now pending will do more than even my observations, to open the eyes of any of the Ameers who may be wavering between our alliance and that of Persia, to the precipice on which they stand; but I shall not fail to tell them distinctly, that the day they connect themselves with any other Power will be the last of their independent authority, if not of their rule, for that we have the ready power to crush and annihilate them, and will not hesitate to call it into action, should it appear requisite, however remotely, for either the integrity or safety of our empire, or its frontiers.

7. Before I conclude this letter, it is necessary I should mention that I have within these few days had a most secret message from Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore (through the acting Native Agent at the mouths of the Indus, who had proceeded to that place to assist in the trial of the sepoys for molesting the return Punjab boats) in which he tells me "that he had heard of the approach of the Persians to Herat, as well as of the insulting manner in which Dost Mahomed of Cabool and the chiefs of Candahar had treated and expelled Captain Burnes and his companions; but that he (Roostum Khan) begged me to be assured that, under all circumstances, he was, and would be, the devoted slave of the British Government, and that his country and resources were at our free disposal whenever we might call for them." This message was delivered verbally, and alone, by Roostum Khan to the Acting Agent, at a visit he paid him at his own private house.

No. 11.

Translation of a Letter addressed to the King of Kings by the least of his trusty slaves, Noor Mahomed Khan.

FOR as much as your slave, after the manner of servants, has, for generations, been among the servants and dependents of the palace of the King of Kings, exalted high as the planet Saturn, he paid service to, and held correspondence with, Futteh Ali Shah, whose soul is in Paradise, and on whom be the mercy of God, and afterwards with Shah Abbas, whose threshold was a nest of bounty, which may the light of God shine upon; and thus he was covered with the favour of those monarchs. This fact is well known to the whole world, and its reflection may have reached the mirror of your enlightened and pure mind.

At this fortunate time, intelligence has come, that the imperial standards, followed by a victorious army, have approached the city of Herat, and that the King desires to take and subdue that fortress. This news has inspired the extremest joy and delight; the prayer to the great God of your faithful and true servant is, that as long as the sun, with his golden fillet, sits on the throne of the painted sphere, dispensing light and splendor, so long may endure your diadem of empire over the seven zones, and the pavilion of royalty over earth and sea, which is above your head high as the stars, illuminating the world as a sun, and shedding light over every country and place, that the rays of the sun of your felicity, like lines of gold, may encircle the necks of all rulers; that the wide expanse of the territory of Islam may be swept clean of thorn and weed, be delivered from the disturbance and malignity of the wicked infidels who sit in darkness; and that the holy religion of our blessed Prophet may daily spread and flourish.

His Highness, of high place, name, and fortune, the most noble among nobles, the august representative of friendship and regard, the flower of pilgrimage, Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, has arrived here from Hindoostan and is putting on the mantle of pilgrimage to proceed to the Kaaba of his desires. He is charged with representations of true service and constant purpose, and many other matters, which, when he kisses the fortunate threshold, he will deliver to those who rejoice in the light of the royal carpet. May they attain to the ladder of acceptance! The beneficence of the King makes his slaves hope that he may be included in the list of the King's old, trusted, and sincere servants. May fateful letters come to him from the presence, and delight him with good news of victory, success, and conquest over the enemies of religion and the State; and may God give victory to the imperial standards, and joy and prosperity until the end of the world!

No. 12.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, August 25,* 1838.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India, the translated substance of a letter which I received yesterday from Moonshee Jeth Anund, the Native Agent at Hyderabad.

2. In addition to the suspicious and unfriendly tone apparent throughout Noor Mahomed Khan's conversation, and the duplicity with which we know him to be acting regarding the Syud Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, who is, as his Lordship is aware, the bearer of the Meer's Ureeza to the King of Persia, the native Agent reports, in a confidential note partly written in cypher, that Syud Zynoolabdeen had secretly visited him (as of his own accord, but evidently tutored by the Ameer), to inform him that since Noor Mahomed Khan

had heard of our new Treaty with Runjeet Sing, he had almost made up his mind to dispatch Syud Sadik Shah (Zynoolabdeen's brother), to invite Mahomed Shah of Persia to advance from Herat to his aid.

3. The Moonshee told his informant in reply, that he did not give the least credit to Noor Mahomed Khan's having any such intention, that he knew too well it would be the final step to his utter ruin; and that as for the Shah advancing towards Sinde, the recent intelligence went to shew that he was not only unable to do so, but had not, apparently, the power of escaping back to his own country. The Moonshee concluded by remarking to his visitor, that he knew nothing of the reported plans of his Lordship the Governor-General, nor had he any orders from me relating to them; but that, whatever they might be, he considered that the Ameers of Sinde, and especially Noor Mahomed, had but one wise course, and that was, to make his Lordship's wishes the rule of their conduct.

4. I take this occasion to acknowledge the receipt (yesterday) of your despatch of the 26th ultimo, with its various accompaniments, and to mention that being now pretty nearly recovered from my late illness, I shall set out for Hyderabad again in a few days.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 13.

Substance of a Letter from the Native Agent at Hyderabad to Colonel Henry Pottinger, Resident in Sinde.

Hyderabad, August 16, 1838.

THE jumptees and boats had left this to meet you, but were recalled as soon as it was ascertained that you had returned to Bhooj, owing to being sick.

Noor Mahomed Khan sent for me in great haste two days ago. When I got to the palace, he was closeted with Chotha Khidmutgar, his most confidential adviser. On coming out he said to me, "I have heard from Shikarpore that the British Government has made a Treaty with Runjeet Sing, not only confirming him in all the territories appertaining to Khorassan which he now holds, but giving him an addition to them equal to two and a-half lacs of rupees annually; also, that he has been promised Shikarpore for his assistance against Mahomed Shah. Is this true?" I replied that I had heard nothing of it. His Highness proceeded to observe that he now wished Colonel Pottinger would come as quickly as possible to Sinde, that he might be fully informed of our intentions; that they (the Sindees) were neither Hindoos, to pray in a Dhurrunsalla all day, nor traders, but soldiers, and that they could arrange for themselves, and act accordingly; that he had understood that Mahomed Shah was coming by the same route and in the same style as Nadir Shah had done, that the soldiers of Hindoostan had never been able to cope with those of Persia, and that the Punjabees (Sikhs) were still less likely to do so.

To all this I replied as before, that I knew nothing of it; that the British Government required no aid to repel the Persians; that if about to interfere at all, it was doubtless with the object of preserving the general tranquillity; that Runjeet Sing himself was quite a match for Mahomed Shah, and that the inferior Chiefs (Zemindars) would be the only sufferers. I then went on to deduce from history a variety of instances of the bad faith, extortion, and horrid cruelty of the Persians, in the truth of which the Ameer concurred. I remarked, "I need not quote the past; there is Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, whom your Highness has lately loaded with favors; he has been just discovered in carrying off in boxes, six young Hindoo girls whom he had kidnapped. The females called out in the Bazaar of Larkhana, their voices were heard, and they discovered; yet I am told, they have not been released." Noor Mahomed admitted the fact, said his people had teased him into supplying the Hajee with cash for his expenses back to Persia; that he knew he was a blackguard; and that if he was still within the Sinde territories, he would send and have the girls released. His Highness concluded by declaring himself the warm and

staunch ally of the British Government; adding, that he would understand our friendship when Colonel Pottinger came to Hyderabad.

Intelligence has been received of the Persians having made an attempt to take Herat by storm, and that they were repulsed with the loss of 2,000 men killed. The garrison lost 300 men. This event had spread despair throughout the Persian camp.

The alleged Persian Shahzada is still here. Nusseer Khan and he are constantly closeted together, and it is understood that the Meer has been trying to persuade him to stay at Shikarpore, or elsewhere in Sinde. The presents prepared for him on his departure (Rokhantana) are worth 10,000 rupees.

The war between the Lugharees and Talpoors, is still in its full vigour. The former chiefs refused to obey the Ameer's summons to come to Hyderabad, until their demand was complied with.

No. 14.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, Bhooj, August* 27, 1838.

SINCE the receipt of your secret dispatch of the 26th ultimo, I have given the subject of it, especially with reference to the duties it assigns to me, my very anxious and full consideration; and, although I cannot bring myself to believe that Noor Mahomed Khan and his relations will venture to oppose the measures of the Governor-General of India, I do certainly entertain considerable doubts as to their acceding to the pecuniary proposals, or rendering other assistance; and likewise as to whether, when the two divisions of troops which are to accompany the King to Cabool, shall have passed through Shikarpore, we could confidently depend on their not throwing obstacles in the way of communication with, and transmission of stores, &c. to the armies, unless they saw and knew that we were prepared to enforce our wishes, and to punish all opposition to our plans.

2. These opinions are, I am sensible, somewhat different from those which I have latterly held regarding the Government of Sinde, but Noor Mahomed Khan's deep duplicity with respect to his late correspondence with the Shah of Persia, combined with his offensive and unjustifiable verbal observations and messages to the Native Agent, as reported in my letter above alluded to, have greatly shaken my confidence in him, and unwillingly oblige me to question his good faith and sincerity towards us, and to apprehend that our chief tie on him, hereafter, must be through his fears.

3. It is possible that, instead of resorting to a direct refusal, Noor Mahomed Khan may declare he is ready to pay his portion of the sum demanded, but that none of his relations will come down with their shares, without we compel them. I do not think that the remote advantage (for such they will consider it) of being relieved from the future claims of the King of Cabool, will have any (or at least it will be very little) weight with these short-sighted and suspicious chiefs. It is to be remembered further, that the tribute is not payable by Noor Mahomed Khan alone, but by all his brethren and connexions, whether in nominal or real fealty and obedience to the Rulers of Hyderabad, Khyrpore, or Meerpore; that numbers of these men have been from first to last violently opposed to any thing like a close alliance with us, or the admission of a British Resident into the country; that they will no doubt upbraid Noor Mahomed and the other chiefs who have agreed to the latter arrangement, with these first fruits, as they will term it, of the connexion; and that they may even resort to the extreme step of insisting on its being dissolved at all risks.

4. My recent dispatches will have shewn his Lordship, that should the popular ferment take such a turn, Noor Mahomed Khan has in himself no power to withstand it, even supposing he was cordially disposed to cling to us. Sobdar and his party will in all probability even go so far as to declare that the demand is a breach of the late agreement, on the principle that, without

our assistance, Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk had no means of exacting one rea from them; consequently, that the demand may be considered our own. I do not, by pointing out this argument, mean for an instant to uphold its correctness, but it is one just suited to the capacity and feelings of the individuals with whom I have to negotiate, and which I feel almost certain will be brought forward.

5. I hope his Lordship will not suppose from the tenour of this letter, that I am exaggerating the existing difficulties, or raising up imaginary ones. My best exertions, I need hardly say, will be devoted to carry the objects of the British Government amicably; and had I one or even two Princes (however obtuse in intellect they might be) to convince, I might hope to succeed. Here I have, I may say, to deal with a whole nation, divided into parties, or split into deadly feuds, headed by uncivilized and barbarous chiefs, to many of whom nothing would be so agreeable and cheering as a state of anarchy and warfare.

6. Had our present connexion existed some years, and our Resident thereby had time, by constant kindly intercourse with the chiefs and people, to have removed the strong and universal impression that exists throughout Sinde, as to our grasping policy, the case might have been widely different; but I enter on my new duties without anything to offer, and with a proposal that will not only strengthen the above impressions (for many besides the Sindees will believe at the outset, that we are making a mere use of Shah Shooja's name), but revive a claim to tribute which has been long esteemed obsolete.

7. For the reasons I have, I fear, imperfectly, adduced in this letter, and also because I am almost convinced that, sooner or later, the precaution will be requisite; I mean to request the Governor of Bombay to take early steps to prepare a force for eventual service in Sinde. I shall propose that three regiments of native infantry, and a troop of horse artillery, be at once sent into Cutch, that a complete regiment of native cavalry be brought to and kept at Rajkote, and that two squadrons of dragoons, two companies of foot artillery, and one thousand European infantry, be held in readiness at their present stations, until I may call for them.

8. I look on it, that the moral effect of such preparations will be even greater on the Government of Sinde, as well as throughout the adjacent principalities, than our sending a force direct into the former province. Should the Ameers seem inclined, either by their avowed hostility, or backwardness in the cause, to oblige us to occupy their territories, I shall lose no time in apprising the Bombay Government; and, in that case, the whole force might either assemble in this province, or the European troops proceed by steamers to the mouths of the Indus where the native infantry would meet them in boats from Mandavie, whilst the mounted corps (horse artillery and native cavalry) would probably have to march, so as to form a junction with the main body of the army somewhere near Tatta. All these details would of course depend greatly on the support or opposition to be anticipated from the Local Government, and of that I shall be able to speak fully when I reach Hyderabad, and have communicated with them.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 15.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Simla, September* 6, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to my address, under date the 13th ultimo, together with its inclosure, being the translation of a letter from the Ameer of Sinde to the Shah of Persia, and, in reply, to communicate to you the following instructions.

The correspondence entered into by Noor Mahomed Khan with the Shah of Persia, his tender of allegiance to that Sovereign, at a period when the opposition of the British Government to the Shah's designs had long been avowed and notorious, the hostility to British interests, which may be implied

from his letter, and his duplicity in making at the same moment professions of submission to Persia, and of close alliance with the British Government, may justly be held to have forfeited for him, on the part of the Governor-General, all confidence and friendly consideration.

You are therefore empowered to take the most energetic measures for placing our relations with Sinde upon a more satisfactory and secure footing, and for guarding against the embarrassment to which an inimical feeling on the part of the Ameers, in their connexion with hostile Powers, may lead.

It seems, upon the evidence which you have detailed, that no doubt can be entertained of the letter in question having been written by Noor Mahomed Khan; but it is not so clear whether any other of the Ameers were parties to this tender of adherence to Persia, or in what degree; and you will endeavour to satisfy yourself upon this head, though the Governor-General fears that unless a British force should be present in the country, it will be impossible to obtain further and more satisfactory evidence upon it.

You will also endeavour to take a just measure of the political state of affairs in the country; and if, as seems certain, the Meer Sobdar has continued faithful to his engagement, although the other Ameers may have been parties to the treacherous and hostile proceedings of Noor Mahomed Khan, you will consider whether that chief may not be placed at the head of its administration, under such conditions as shall secure in the country the ascendancy of British influence.

It has seemed desirable to the Governor-General that a British force of not less than five thousand men should, under all circumstances, be held in readiness at Bombay, to be sent to Shikarpore as a reinforcement, or reserve, to the army under Sir Henry Fane. It is probable that this force will, at any rate, be detached from Bombay in the month of November or December, and you will consider whether its incidental presence towards the end of the year may not insure success to your negotiations, or whether the advance of a force of this kind should not be at once required to support you in the measures which may now be deemed necessary to enforce that change in the Government which, in the issue of those measures, you may desire to see effected; and in the latter case, you are authorized to make direct application, for the immediate dispatch of the force, to the Government of Bombay.

Indeed this authority, and instructions to this effect, were given in a letter dated the 26th of July last; and the present occasion might have seemed sufficient to justify their being acted upon. The Governor-General will, therefore, look with much anxiety for a sequel to the letter now under reply.

The Governor-General has received, with much pleasure, the account contained in your letter, of the professions of friendly feeling which have been made to you by the Meer of Khyrpore, for his Lordship considers it to be of much importance that the good offices and the cordial good feeling of that Chief should be conciliated, as well with a view to the approaching operations of our armies, as for the permanent facility which may be thereby acquired for the navigation of the Indus.

Captain Burnes has been deputed upon a special mission to the Khan of Kelat; and has been instructed on his march to secure facilities, and to form depôts, at Shikarpore, and at other stations, for the advance and the supply of the army. He will upon his march have an interview with the Chief of Khyrpore, and will communicate to you, as well as to the Governor-General, what may pass upon that occasion, though he has been instructed to confine his communications generally to topics of general friendliness, and to such as may conduce to arrangements convenient for military operations, rather than extend them to such as have a political bearing. It may be remarked, however, that it would be of great and important convenience to the army if the temporary occupation of Bukkur could be obtained for our magazines and hospitals; and Captain Burnes has been directed to use his best endeavours to facilitate this object. A copy of the instructions this day issued to Captain Burnes is sent herewith for your information. It has occurred to the Governor-General, as you will observe from the instructions to Captain Burnes, that, especially in the event of the Government of Lower Sinde being newly constituted, it might be exceedingly advisable to give a more assured independence to Meer Roos-

tum Khan, and thereby to bind that Chief to the British Government in the most close and permanent alliance.

The great distance of Sinde, and the rapid succession of events, render it difficult for his Lordship to give you more precise instructions; but you cannot but have been impressed with the critical position in which the Government of India has been placed by the intrigues and threatened aggressions of Persia. You will have seen the absolute necessity of the measures of redress which have been undertaken.

The Governor-General would have gladly taken any step which might have insured a friendly co-operation in these measures on the part of the Ameers of Sinde; but his Lordship must have it to be felt and understood, that those who are not our friends in the day of trial will be considered as our enemies; and unhappily it is amongst those that Noor Mahomed has apparently chosen to rank himself.

It must have come to your knowledge, as it has come to that of the Government, that in the Persian camp, a ready willingness has been evinced to conciliate the Ameers of Sinde to the interests of the Shah of Persia. It has been reported also, that such advances have been courted; and I need not point out to you the effect which such a letter as that of Noor Mahomed may have, in giving encouragement to intrigue and to aggression.

You have stated your intention to charge the Ameer to his face with this injurious act; but you have not stated with what proceeding on your part an admission by him will be followed; and it is, therefore, difficult to foresee in what circumstances you may be placed before the receipt of this letter. It seems open to you to decide upon proclaiming, as soon as a force from Bombay may enable you to do so with effect, that an act of hostility and bad faith having been committed toward the British Government, the share in the Government of Sinde, which has been held by the guilty party, shall be transferred to the more faithful members of the family; and it may be thought right to accompany this transfer with a condition, that as a security for the future, a British subsidiary force shall be maintained in Sinde; or, secondly, the maintenance of this force may be required without the adoption of an act so rigorous as that of deposition; or, thirdly, it may be thought expedient, upon submission, and the tender by the Ameer of such amends as may be in his power, to point out to him that no better reparation can be given than by exertions to give effect to the Treaty formed for the restoration of Shah Shooja, by a cordial adoption of its terms, and by exertions on every side to facilitate the success of the coming expedition, the party or parties to the breach of faith now commented upon being required to contribute much more largely than the other Ameer or Ameers, to the pecuniary composition to be paid to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

The course first named is, in the opinion of his Lordship, clearly justified by the circumstances of the case; it would alone give security for the future; and every other course would seem to put the friends and the unfriendly, the faithful and the faithless, on the same footing. You may, however, have seen objections to it; and with whatever favour his Lordship may regard it, or even the second, or less satisfactory course above referred to (if under it, a British force could be fixed in Sinde, without an unjust imposition on the Ameer or Ameers, who have not been parties to Noor Mahomed Khan's treacherous proceeding), he would not press either course upon you at the hazard of local confusion, or of impediments being offered to the military operations which are at this moment his primary object.

You will omit no opportunity of freely communicating with the Government of Bombay upon all that may be passing in Sinde, and particularly with regard to the proposed march of troops from Kurachee to Shikarpore, upon the facilities which the country may afford, and the feelings with which it is probable that the expedition will be regarded by the population, assuming that no actual rupture should have taken place with the Government.

I am desired to add, that the approach of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk's army, consisting, independently of his personal retainers, of five regiments of infantry, and two of cavalry, with a proportion of artillery, may be expected at Shikarpore, in the early part of December; and that of the British Army, of from 10 to 12,000 men, within five or six weeks later. These circumstances are

mentioned, as they may lead you to calculate on the support to your measures which will be derived from these movements on the north of Sinde.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 16.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes.

Sir, *Simla, September* 6, 1838.

BY my separate letter of this date, you have been apprised of the new duties which you are called on to perform, with a view to facilitate the military operations which it is in contemplation to carry on beyond the Indus, and it does not occur to his Lordship to add any thing more to those instructions.

With reference, however, to political objects, I am directed to desire that you should seek an interview with the Chief of Khyrpore. You are aware that the negotiations with this chief have been already intrusted to Colonel Pottinger; and the confidential communications upon them bearing a very favourable aspect, your visit should rather be one of compliment and friendship, than as from an officer accredited for any distinct political object. At the same time you are authorized to state to Meer Roostum Khan the object of your mission, and you may assume his ready and willing co-operation in all measures for giving facility to the advance of the army, for the collection of supplies, and for their safety when accumulated. You are authorized to speak frankly upon passing events, and upon the objects of the British Government; and with the perfect information which has been imparted to you of all that has passed between the Ameers of Sinde and Colonel Pottinger, you may be able to do so with considerable advantage, and to ascertain in return the disposition of that chief.

The Governor-General, as you are aware, attaches great importance to the possession of Bukkur, and you will probably be able to ascertain from Meer Roostum Khan how far he would be willing to permit us to occupy it. Herewith you will receive a document under the seal and signature of the Governor-General, certifying that our desire is only for the temporary occupation of that fortress, which you are authorized to produce, should occasion require it.

Should Meer Roostum Khan stipulate for any return in consideration of his ceding to us possession of the fortress, such, for instance, as the guaranteed independence of the Khyrpore territory, you will state to him that you will communicate his wishes to the Governor-General. You are aware that his Lordship is favourably disposed towards such an arrangement, but the adoption of it must depend upon circumstances as they may hereafter be developed.

It occurs to the Governor-General, all circumstances considered, that it will be better for you to remain at Shikarpore, at least until the arrival at that place of Shah Shooja's force, though you are at liberty, should you deem the measure urgently necessary, to proceed at once to Kelat, after the termination of your conferences with the Chief of Khyrpore.

You are authorized to expend a sum not exceeding 3,000 rupees in providing presents for the different chiefs whom you may visit.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 17.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, at Aughera, September* 6, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Gover-

nor-General of India, that Kazee Ibrahim (the same person who came as an emissary from Noor Mahomed Khan in November, 1837,) joined my camp yesterday morning. He was the bearer of letters from Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, in which they say they have dispatched him to make verbal inquiries for my health, regarding which they are very anxious; but from what the native agent lately mentioned as to the Ameers suspecting that my return to Bhooj on account of sickness was a mere pretence, and the Kazee's having been ordered to proceed direct from Tatta (where he resides) to Bhooj, I have no doubt but the real object of his mission is to ascertain the truth of this suspicion, and also to see if any, and what, military preparations are going forward in this province.

2. A few hours later a packet reached me from the native agent at Hyderabad, in which he reports, that the self-styled Persian Prince is at last about to take his departure. The Ameers have furnished him with a state boat (Jumptee) for his personal accommodation, and another vessel for his horses, &c., as far as Sehwan, whence he is to march to Shikarpore. They have given him four richly caparisoned horses, two tents, one riding and four baggage-camels, a large sum of ready money in gold mohurs, and orders on the manager of Shikarpore for 4,000 rupees. The alleged Prince, although he has accepted all these presents, still adhered to his declaration that he had turned a Fakeer, and he refused to substitute a turban for the handkerchief he wears round his head, although the Ameers pressed him very much to lay aside that badge of his having become a religious devotee. He now publicly gives out, that he means to join Mahomed Shah after the capture of Herat, and, although no such idea seems to have crossed our native agent's mind, I cannot divest myself of the impression, that he is a mere agent of the King of Persia, who has assumed his present disguise to visit Sinde and the adjacent countries. The Moonshee, amongst other facts, particularly states, that the Shahzada and the two Ameers (Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans) with their confidential advisers, were closeted together for several hours the day the self-styled Prince took his leave.

3. The most important part, however, of the Moonshee's report relates to a communication made to the Ameers by Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, and their proposed reply to it, of both of which he has obtained and sent me copies. His Majesty addresses Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans separately and kindly, calling them his children, and to Meer Mahomed and Sobdar Khans he adds a joint note in which he says he considers the whole of the Ameers to be one, and that they will learn his plans from what he has written to their brothers. The purport of the king's letter is simply to say that he has waited until the proper period arrived, for re-establishing his authority, that it is now come, and that he expects they (the Ameers) will do him good service as their fathers have before done.

4. In answer to the King's letter, Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans had prepared a draft to the following effect, "We have always been ready in the service of kings. The tribes of Beloochees are however disappointed and displeased at what formerly occurred at Shikarpore; and your now advancing by that route is impossible. The faithlessness of the Barukzyes, the adhesion of the Dooranee and other Khans who are the flower of the royal army, to the Ameer-ool-Omrah Dost Mahomed Khan, and his great power, must be well known to you (the King). In addition to all this, the mighty Sultan Mahomed, Shah of Persia, is arrived at Herat with an immense army, countless treasures, and inexhaustible stores and resources, and is further supported by the European tribe of Russians. You desire us to represent our views. We accordingly say, that it is out of the question your coming this way; but if the English and Runjeet Sing join you, there is a direct road from Loodiana to Khorassan and we will be ready to assist. We repeat, that a large army coming through Sinde by Shikarpore is impossible and not to be attempted. We shall be in readiness to attend at the shortest notice."

5. The native agent states, that the Ameers were hourly consulting about forwarding the foregoing answer, and it will perhaps depend on the report the Kazee Ibrahim may make as to what he sees and hears in Cutch. He is not, as his Lordship is already aware, a person of such respectability as to render it either advisable or proper that I should enter into any discussion with him; but, as I have already intimated to Noor Mahomed Khan, that he

shall know the plans and arrangements of the Governor-General on my arrival at Hyderabad, he may have prudence enough to suspend the transmission of this ill-judged and unfriendly reply until he talks to me. In the meantime, it appears to me fully evident, from the tenor of the recent reports of the native agent, that the Ameers (two of them at least) have not only been tampered with by Persia, but that, they have lent a willing ear to the exaggerated accounts of our enemies given to them; and that, whatever sentiments they may profess, their good will and friendship towards us must henceforward be considered to be merely lip-deep.

6. I shall not fail to tell them so at the earliest period, in terms that they cannot mistake, and I shall add that as they have, by their own conduct, annulled the confidence which we were ready to repose in them, they must expect that the Governor-General will, in times to come, consider them to stand on a different footing towards the British Government, and issue his commands accordingly.

7. The feud between the Talpoors and Lugharees continues unabated. The whole of the chiefs of the latter tribe had retired to their estates, and refused to obey the summons of the Ameers to return to Hyderabad. Their Highnesses were much perplexed in consequence, but had promised the Talpoors (who it would appear dread the revenge of the other party) that they would send the father of the unhappy girl who was poisoned, and settle with him for the price of the blood of his child.

8. Meer Ali Moorad, the younger brother of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, had severely punished the sepoys who attacked the return Punjab boat, declaring, at the same time, that he did so on account of his wish to please the British Government, and not to evince his obedience to the other Ameers, who had no authority over his country. The servants of Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, stationed near Subzulkote, on the northern frontier, have been exacting large sums from dealers from Loodiana, apparently on the plea of their having evaded the regular payment of the proper customs. I shall, in due time, take up the subject, and insist not only on the restitution of the money, but the punishment and dismissal of the offending officers.

9. I transmitted transcripts of my dispatches to your address of the 14th, 25th, and 27th ultimo to the Political Secretary to the Bombay Government on the latter date, and I shall forward a copy of the present one for the information of the Governor in Council of that Presidency.

10. I take this occasion to report that I expect to reach Luckput Bunder on the 11th instant, and shall cross into Sinde, and continue my journey, without waiting for any officers to meet me.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 18.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, at Mhurr, September* 10, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that I was yesterday met by two cossids from Hyderabad bringing me answers to the letters which I wrote to Noor Mahomed Khan, and to Moonshee Jeth Anund, our native agent, on the 25th of last month.

2. The Meer's letter is, as usual, a tissue of professions of the warmest friendship, and congratulations on my recovery, but makes no allusion to Kazee Ibrahim's mission, of which I suppose he is ashamed. He also says he has sent off a trustworthy Khidmutgar to have the roads by which I must advance, repaired, as they have been greatly cut up by the unusually high flood of the past season, and that he will dispatch other officers to meet me in due time.

3. The native agent states that, when he waited on Noor Mahomed Khan with my letter, his Highness, after perusing it, observed "I dare say Colonel Pottinger will be applying to me in favour of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, but the

Colonel knows, that he (the Shah) is my enemy, and that I cannot trust him, unless the British Government give me a writing, when I will be ready to send troops to his aid."

4. The Ameers Noor and Mahomed Nusseer Khans had decided on transmitting the reply to the Shah's letter, quoted in my despatch of the 6th instant, and the Moonshee had seen it ready to be delivered to the messengers, under the seals of the above two chiefs. The only alterations made in the draft were the addition of the following sentence after the allusion to the King of Persia being supported by the Russians:—"How then can any attempt on Khorassan be considered practicable?" and a repetition of the observation, that the road from Loodiana through the Punjab, was that alone which could be taken by the King's army.

5. A letter has been received by the Ameers from Bhawul Khan telling them of the purport of one he had had from Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, but saying he (Bhawul Khan) did not know by what route the King meant to advance. The Ameers intended to write to the Khan, that they had refused to give the King a passage through Sinde. This was to be done from their hunting seats, for which they were just setting off when the Moonshee's letter was closed.

6. In consequence of the strong representations of the native agent, the Ameers Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans had not only repaid the money exacted from the Loodiana dealers (referred to in the 8th paragraph of my letter of the 6th instant), but had removed the officers by whom it was taken. It is evident, that this concession was brought about by my letter to the Moonshee of the 15th of August, in which I told him, that the Governor-General had approved of my suspending my journey to Hyderabad, unless full amends were made for the ill treatment of the people belonging to the return Punjab boats.

7. I shall send a copy of this letter f[redacted]rmation of the Governor in Council at Bombay.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 19.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, September* 20, 1838

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, dated the 25th and 27th ultimo, the latter assigning your reasons for intending to suggest to the Governor in Council of Bombay the expediency of preparing a force for eventual service in Sinde.

The Governor-General has maturely considered the observations contained in your letter, now acknowledged, and his Lordship is decidedly of opinion that, with reference especially to the deep duplicity displayed by the principal Ameer, and his unjustifiable conduct in other respects, as detailed in the 2d paragraph of your letter, to the distracted state of the administration of Sinde, and to the feelings of unwarrantable enmity and jealousy with which, notwithstanding the recent measures by which their authority was preserved from impending destruction, we appear to be regarded by some of the chiefs of that country, it is essential to the success of the cause in which we have embarked, and no more than what is due to a just regard for our own interests, that a British force of not less than 5,000 men should advance, with the least practicable delay, for the occupation of Shikarpore, or such other parts of Sinde as may be deemed most eligible for facilitating our operations beyond the Indus, and for giving full effect to the provisions of the Tripartite Treaty recently concluded.

The Governor-General would have been disposed to attach weight to your opinion that the mere preparation of a suitable force might have all the moral effect that could be desired, had no ulterior measures been in contemplation beyond those of preventing, on the part of the Sinde Government, any opposition to the accomplishment of our immediate objects; but as it will be, at all events, necessary that a force should be stationed on the Indus as a

reserve to the advancing army, the Governor-General conceives that such force should be pushed forward at the earliest period which the seasons and the due course of preparation will admit, with a view to its aiding you in the adoption of the measures which you may deem it requisite to take, in consequence of the hostile feeling manifested by one or more of the Ameers, and in conformity with the Governor-General's recent instructions. The Governor-General has the fullest reliance on your judgment and discretion, and he feels that you will act in the mode most consistent with the safety and honour of the British Government. He deems it hardly necessary to remind you that in the important crisis at which we are arrived, we cannot permit our enemies to occupy the seat of power: the interests at stake are too great to admit of hesitation in our proceedings; and not only they who have shown a disposition to favour our adversaries, but they who display an unwillingness to aid us in the just and necessary undertaking in which we are engaged, must be displaced, and give way to others on whose friendship and co-operation we may be able implicitly to rely.

You will be pleased to enter into immediate communication with the Government of Bombay, stating your sentiments as to the best route for the advance of the force, as to the station or stations it should occupy, and generally as to the best means of rendering it subservient to the accomplishment of our present purposes.

It is useless, his Lordship desires me to say, to conjecture at what stage your negotiations may have arrived at the date of your receipt of this letter. Should you not have seen sufficient reason to render expedient a change in the Government of Sinde, and should you be of opinion that the present Ameers will join cordially with us in our present undertaking, you will apprise them that the advance of the British force is by no means intended to operate injuriously to their interests [redacted] his Lordship, of course, expects that they will exert themselves as s[redacted]nds to the British Government in complying with every requisition that ma[redacted] made upon them with a view to facilitate the ensuing operations.

You are aware that Captain Burnes has been deputed to Khyrpore, and you are requested to explain fully to that officer the state of affairs in your quarter, authorizing him, should you deem the time for that measure to have arrived, to enter into a new Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, guaranteeing his independence, and assuring him of the protection of the British Government against all external enemies.

A copy of this letter will be furnished to Captain Burnes, for his information and guidance, as well as to the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 20.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) (No. 23), *Simla, September* 24, 1838.

THE important despatch, of the 13th of August, from the Resident in Sinde, and the translation which accompanied it, will apprize you of the proved faithlessness of Noor Mahomed Khan, the Chief Ameer, to his recently concluded engagements with the British Government, and the supposed perfidy of the other Ameers, with the exception of Meer Sobdar Khan. This Chief, of the Soonee sect, seems to have determined upon remaining firm to his engagements with us; the other Ameers, who are Sheeas, seem influenced by a sectarian bias towards the Persians, which, in the case of Noor Mahomed Khan, has led to an open expression of attachment and avowal of fidelity. The conditional instructions to Colonel Pottinger, reported in my last despatch on this subject, may have induced him to act at once upon the discovery of this treacherous correspondence, by calling for a force from Bombay sufficient for the military occupation of Sinde. You will perceive that, while I communicated to Colonel Pottinger freely my views of policy at this crisis, I yet felt it proper to depend much upon his good sense and discretion for the arrangements which it may be requisite to adopt in the actual exigency of

votion to British interests expressed by the Ameer of Khyrpore, y Meer Sobdar Khan, is, at this juncture, important; and this part of these Chiefs, backed by a force from Bombay, and the army a, in Shikarpore, is not less calculated to facilitate approaching n, perhaps lead to a settlement of the affairs of Sinde perma- eou rests. You will perceive that I have addressed of ength, on the subject of the force required from

aining temporary possession of the fortress of Resident in Sinde, merely incidentally alluded to Captain Burnes, deputed by me on a mission to to the means whereby Meer Roostum Khan ed to accede to the arrangement. The favour- s been already noted; this feeling Captain Burnes vate, and, for its maintenance, in connection with the mporary cession of Bukkur, I have informed Captain nprepared to receive propositions for admitting the of Khyrpore as a conditional arrangement, dependent ontingent events at Hyderabad.

No. 21.

randum given by the Resident in Sinde to the Ameers.

Sinde Residency, Camp, September 27, 1838

riend having been directed by the Governor-General of India to n important communications to the Ameers of Sinde, has dvisable to prepare a written memorandum, in order that his ishes and intentions may become perfectly and clearly known to nesses, and that there may be no plea for misunderstanding here- ther side.

Highnesses have of course long heard of the unsettled state of and Affghanistan; and, in the opinion of the Governor-General, as now arrived in those countries which imperiously demands the nce of the British Government, both with regard to the settlement ll-being of the countries in question, and also for the tranquillity and of Hindoostan, and the States adjoining it.

is Lordship is further of opinion, that it is now necessary that the real ds of the British Government should unequivocally stand forward to nce their friendly feelings by assisting in the measures which the Governor- neral may consider requisite to frustrate and render null the combination ich the Governments to the westward of India are known to have formed th the object of disturbing and injuring the possessions of the British Govern- ent, and with them, those of its allies and tributaries.

A treaty was made about five years ago between His Majesty Shah Shooja- l-Moolk and the Maharajah Runjeet Sing consisting of fourteen articles. the fourth article of that Treaty it was written:—

"Regarding Shikarpore and the territory of Sinde lying on the right ank of the Indus, the Shah will agree to abide by whatever may be settled as ght and proper in conformity with the happy relations of friendship subsist- g between the British Government and the Maharajah, through Captain "

he said Treaty was not for certain reasons acted on at the time it was ritten, but at present it has been resolved to bring it into execution; e Governor-General of India has agreed to become a party to it, e addition of four articles. One of those articles provides for Maha- unjeet Sing receiving annually two lacs of rupees from the Shah, in ation of which his Highness is always to keep 5,000 Mussulman ady at Peshawur for the King's service when required. Another ipulates, that when Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk shall have established his over Cabool, &c., His Majesty is not to make any demands upon, or Kamran Shah of Herat. A third article provides for the Shah

entering into no negotiations or treaties with any foreign Powe
knowledge and consent of the British and Lahore Governme
fourth article is to the following effect:—

"Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk agrees to relinquish for himself,
successors, all claims of supremacy and arrears of tribute ove
now held by the Ameers of Sinde, which will cor ong
and their successors in perpetuity, on condition ent
Ameers, of such a sum as may be determined un tio
Government, 15,00,000 of rupees of such pay le
Maharajah Runjeet Sing. On these payment ec
the Treaty of the 12th of March, 1833, will be
customary interchange of letters and suitable prese
and the Ameers of Sinde, shall be maintained as h

For the purpose of giving full and perfect ef
Shooja-ool-Moolk has been furnished by the British
arms, and other necessary means for raising and equ
to march, under His Majesty's personal command,
pore and Shikarpore, into Affghanistan, whilst anot
Maharajah Runjeet Sing is to march, with the King's
wur by the direct road to Cabool. With the object of
should be requisite to do so, the King's own army, a Bi
take the same route by Shikarpore, and both these armies n
reach the Indus about the beginning of the month of Sheval
and to cross at Bukkur, or in that neighbourhood. They w
by the route of Shikarpore on Candahar; and the Gover
India relies on the friendship and good will of the Governm
render every assistance, by ordering boats to be collected for cro
and camels and grain to be also furnished as far as may be re
hire and price of all boats, camels, grain, &c., will be punctually
ably to the custom of the British Government in friendly countries.

The Governor-General confidently trusts, that the Ameers o
see the magnitude of the benefit which they will derive by being
the payment of a moderate sum of money, from all future claims
the tribute payable to the Monarchs of Cabool, or the undoubted p
of the latter to Shikarpore. His Lordship also believes and thi
their Highnesses, as sincere friends and near neighbours, will be h
ready to take this opportunity of meeting the views, and assisting in th
objects, of the British Government, from which the Ameers have
derived such essential relief and advantage by its mediation with Mal
Runjeet Sing, and which has not, in the arrangements now in progress
gotten or overlooked their interests and well-being, as is clearly demonstr
by the article of the treaty above quoted.

Their Highnesses the Ameers will not fail to perceive that, in matters
such vast importance, every precaution must be adopted to prevent the p
sibility of delay, or the occurrence of the smallest failure. His Highness t
Nawab Bhawul Khan has been accordingly invited, as a friend and we
wisher of the British Government, and of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, to lend his aid
and, since this friend quitted Bhooj, he has had a letter from Captain Mackeson
informing him that the said Nawab has agreed to the proposals made to hin
This friend will not allow himself to suppose for one moment that the Amee
of Sinde will hesitate to acquiesce in what is looked to from them, but it
proper that he should distinctly warn their Highnesses that, in the event o
their not acceding to the proposed mediation of the Governor-General of India
as to the sum to be paid by them to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, they will not
the same offer hereafter, and therefore their object should be to eff
immediate favourable compromise under the guarantee of the British G
ment. The Ameers must likewise perfectly understand, that the me
described in this memorandum are not open to further consideration, bu
been finally resolved on, and that any hesitation on their part, or that
other Power, to comply with what is asked of them, must be deemed
refusal, and immediate steps taken to remedy it, which it is obviou
be done by calling in additional troops, which are all ready both in the
and Bombay territories. In short, this friend has been directed
Governor-General of India to assure the Ameers of Sinde that it is

st desire to preserve and augment the relations of amity and
ness between the two Governments, that he trusts to find their
ctuated by the same sentiments, and that they will prevent the
any proceedings that might be called for by a contrary feeling, by
ess to accede to what has been so fully and candidly explained

usion, I am directed to intimate to the Ameers the wish of the
eral of India, that that part of the article of the treaty which
ary stores coming by the Indus river, shall be during the present
spended.

there be any point in this memorandum on which the Ameers require
this friend will be ready to give it, but he begs to mention that
nd British armies will march in the course of fifteen days from
nd that there is consequently, as before stated, neither occasion nor
gthened negotiation.

H. POTTINGER.

No. 22.

ret Memorandum given by the Resident in Sinde to the Ameers.

Sinde Residency, Camp, September 27, 1838.

separate memorandum which this friend has drawn up will have
Highnesses Noor Mahomed Khan, and Nusseer Khan, full informa-
ding the plans and intentions of the British Government, in con-
ith Maharajah Runjeet Sing, and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

comes the unpleasant duty of this friend to further acquaint their
nesses, that the orders which are contained in the said separate
um were issued by the Governor-General, before his Lordship
e that their said Highnesses had addressed, through the agency
or Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, a slavish ureeza to Mahomed Shah
h which they express their anxiety for the Shah's success, and
r devotion to his cause.

be perfectly clear to their Highnesses that, if they choose to forego
their own station, and rank, and independence, in the manner they
h the said ignominous ureeza, they have no right to expect that the
vernment will look upon them in the light it has hitherto done, either
or rulers.

It has also been reported to the Governor-General, that his Highness
r Mahomed Khan, when he heard of the Treaty made with Maharajah
njeet Sing and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, sent for the British native agent,
d asked if it was true that the British Government had given Shikarpore to
e said Maharajah for his assistance against the King of Persia; that his
ighness afterwards sent Zynoolabdeen to the said native agent to tell him
rivately, that his Highness thought of calling in the Shah of Persia to his aid
gainst the British and Lahore Governments; that his Highness, on another
casion, told the native agent, that this friend would doubtless be applying to
in favour of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; and finally, that his Highness has
only written to refuse the said Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk a road through
, but has intimated to this friend that, if the Shah attempts to come, he
e opposed.

Their Highnesses Noor Mahomed Khan, and Nusseer Mahomed Khan,
dge themselves whether the above slavish ureeza to the King of Persia,
verbal communications to the native British agent, as well as the
nt to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, and what has been written to this friend
osing His Majesty, accord with the professions of friendship and good-
they have always made to the British Government.

from bestowing Shikarpore on Maharajah Runjeet Sing, the
neral provided for the future safety and independence of
nd of all Sinde, in the Article of the Treaty quoted in the
, and the Ameers of Sinde cannot show that, in the slightest point,
Government has deviated from the friendly feelings, and perfect

confidence, which it felt towards, and was ready to repose on, the
of Sinde.

That confidence is now at an end; for the Ameers themselv
celled it, and have shown their willingness to join any enemy o
Government. Their Highnesses cannot say that they have acted i
from ignorance. Noor Mahomed Khan himself told the British
that the settlement of Khorassan was to be made under the au
British Government; and this friend wrote to his Highness fr
the whole arrangement should be made fully known to the Am
on his arrival at Hyderabad. The Ameers have not deemed i
for this friend's arrival, but have written an insulting letter to S
ool-Moolk, talking of the power, the wealth, and the resources o
of Persia, and his being assisted by the Russians; and, although the
the said King of Persia are so fallen that he has been obliged
Herat, which he in vain besieged for eight months, yet the spirit an
the Ameers of Sinde towards the British Government has become e
is not to be mistaken.

This friend deems it proper to intimate to their Highnesses
opinion, their procedure will be looked on as equally uncalled f
variance with friendship, by the Governor-General of India; and
to be seen what further commands his Lordship will issue on th
Whenever those commands are received by this friend, their Highn
be informed.

HENRY POT

No. 23.

The Resident in Sinde to J. R. Colvin, Esq., Private Secretary to Lord

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, October*

I HAVE given the instructions of the 6th the fullest considerat
conclusion I have arrived at is this, that it is my only plan to adhe
the terms of the secret memorandum, which leaves all future meas
ent on the pleasure and commands of the Governor-General. It
personal consideration, I need hardly say, that I do not at once den
Mahomed and his advisers, but were I to do so, I could gain nothi
and I should inevitably destroy all the arrangements I have in view,
those which Captain Burnes has been directed to make, for supplies,
and boats for both the Bengal and Bombay armies. I have seen quite e
of Sinde within this last fortnight to confirm my former opinions, that the p
dare not sell to, or assist us openly, without the permission of the Governm
This partly proceeds from the superintendence of the sale of every thing
farmed out, which seems to be one of the checks on peculation by the p
officers, who must at all events first bribe the Dullalls. It is not yet arra
whether the Ameers are to sell us grain, or we are to buy it from others,
even in the latter case, their purwanna is necessary. To open a communica
with Sobdar, even supposing he is ready to listen to it at the expense o
colleagues in power, would be utterly fruitless, without the means of supp
ing our plans. I also think it impossible to do so without the risk of sacrif
him. He lives with the other three Ameers and their families inside th
tress of Hyderabad, where he is surrounded and watched by the partiz
his brothers. The first step he would have to take, would be to aban
family, fly from Hyderabad, and raise the standard of opposition. T
what he threatened to do formerly for the recovery of his own right
succeeded: but we cannot expect him to make any such exertion no
a perfect understanding, and perhaps treaties, which could only
after lengthened negotiation. Finally, the degree of treacher
Mahomed Khan and his party remains to be proved. He admits t
to Mahomed Shah, but denies that his ureeza is to the purport I h
He one moment allows, he made use of the expressions to the nativ
the next protests he did nothing of the kind, and that Zynoolabde
the message about calling in the Persians, without his knowledge;

had he known that Shah Shooja was going to Khorassan assisted by us, he never would have written to him as he did; and he has got every man of weight about his Durbar to swear that they were in utter ignorance of all passing events until my arrival. I have had no difficulty in making him and his supporters contradict themselves on all these points, over and over again, but still it perplexes, and one can hardly tell men of their rank and station, that they are uttering barefaced falsehoods, however clearly that may be inferred to be our opinion. I have not yet been able to bring forward the Persian copy of the ureeza to the Shah, had I done so, suspicion would have fallen on ——, and led to the utter ruin of him and all his family. To effectually blind them, I have therefore pretended, that only an English translation has been sent to me from Simla, but that I have written for a copy of the original: even when the time arrives for showing it, I hardly see how it is to be established, and still less how we are to get at the nature of the secret conferences between the self-styled Persian Prince and the Ameers. Colonel Alves will send Mr. Macnaghten a copy of the letter regarding a communication made by Noor Mahomed to the Rajah of Joudpore (I have not alluded to it in any way, lest they should take steps to suppress all traces of it) and perhaps, something may be ferreted out of it; so perhaps when our troops are in the country, some secret well-wisher may step forward to make disclosures; at present we cannot hope for any such zeal in our cause, when ruin would be the immediate result to the individual and all connected with him; and I hope his Lordship will agree with me that we must patiently await the developement of the plot. Our four grand wants are grain, camels, boats, and money; and I send a paper showing what I have been doing, and mean to do, on these points: the last is by far the most difficult to provide for, and I fear it will only be done at a heavy loss to the Government. I will send a copy of this paper to Major Felix, as you request. I do not mean to write by this opportunity for the Bombay troops to advance. Their presence in Cutch will tell sufficiently for my purpose until his Lordship shall see fit to require their presence in this province, whether to support the Cabool army, or to call Noor Mahomed Khan to a reckoning. The latter can only be done as it should be by us, when we have obtained further proofs against him, and they can only be looked for, when our friends see us in force in the country.

I have written such a letter to Meer Roostum Khan, as will assure him; but from all I hear, he is kept down as formerly by his brother Moobaruck Khan and the *clique* that profess to be guided by the wishes of the Ameers of this place.

No. 24.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, October* 5, 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India, to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, dated the 6th and 10th ultimo, furnishing intelligence from Sinde.

The tenor of these communications fully justifies the suspicions felt by his Lordship, of the unfriendly disposition entertained by the principal Ameers of Sinde towards the British Government and its allies. In the present crisis of affairs no opposition to the arrangements in progress can be tolerated; and if, after your arrival at Hyderabad, a disposition altogether different shall not be manifested by the Ameers, his Lordship will be glad to learn that you have given effect to the provisional instructions with which you have already been furnished; that you will have called for the advance of the Bombay army; and that you will have entered into a provisional engagement with Meer Sobdar, or some other member of the family, who may be disposed cordially to enter into our views to the exclusion of those Ameers from all share in the government of the country, who have not only shown an unwillingness to co-operate heartily with us in the prosecution of those measures which have been deemed necessary for the security and welfare of British

India, but who have been ready even to connect themselves with the Powers who are most opposed to its safety and its interests.

With the Khyrpore Ameer under existing circumstances, the Governor-General deems it highly desirable that a separate engagement shall be concluded, on the basis of recognizing his independence, provided he has maintained the same friendly spirit as heretofore towards the British Government; but on this point you will in all probability have communicated with Captain Burnes who has been deputed to the Court of Meer Roostum, and you will continue to bear in mind all the points which have been pressed upon you in the instructions with which you have been already furnished.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 25.

The Resident in Sinde to Captain Burnes at Khyrpore.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, October* 8, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th ultimo, giving cover to a duplicate of the instructions issued to me on the 8th ultimo, which I had previously received on the 3d instant.

2. The events of every succeeding hour satisfy me that we have nothing to look to from the cordial cooperation and sincere friendship of the Government of Sinde.

3. I annex some extracts from my diary, which will serve to show you the temper, the falsehood, the weakness, and the absurd boasting of the Ameers, better than I could explain them by a long letter.

"After three hours talking in this strain, he said I was too strong for him; I replied our good faith and truth were too strong for the cause he had to support, which he tacitly admitted. He at last said, 'It has been through you that our alliance with the British Government has been formed and cemented; you must undertake to remove the present heart-burnings and make all green again. We will find troops, or if you insist on bringing yours, we will transport them by land, and furnish them with grain, sugar, ghee, spices, clothes, gunpowder, and shot, in short, with every thing that they can possibly require, so that your bringing military stores by the Indus will be quite superfluous.'

"To all this I answered, that the Governor-General had asked nothing of Sinde but as a friend, and had thought of the Ameers' interests as his own; that his Lordship's displeasure at Noor Mahomed Khan's treachery would be in proportion as the latter was uncalled for and unexpected, and that, of course, his Lordship's orders, whatever they might be, must be obeyed; that our troops would bring their stores, and all else would be had for money.

"The subject then turned on the letter to Mahomed Shah. They treated it as a trifle; said it was a mere complimentary one given to a traveller; that they would send and get the original from the Hajee, who was s[illegible] at Shikarpore, and make it over to me; they professed ignorance of any unfriendly expressions made use of by Noor Mahomed Khan, and told Jeth Anund to his face, they doubted his word; they swore they were poor Beloochees, and in utter ignorance of all that was passing abroad; that they had no money, but were ready with their troops, their lives, and their aid, in any way; with much more of this kind of stuff; and ending by saying, I could and must put the misunderstanding which had arisen, to rights.

"Noor Mahomed Khan hesitated a good deal about the purwanna for grain. He still evidently seems to think he can keep back the Bombay army. He insisted it should not come by the Indus. Jeth Anund told him it would do so, as surely as the sun rises daily. Nothing, however, was settled to my satisfaction, or agreeable to their promises.

"I sent the Moonshee this morning to Noor Mahomed Khan, to tell him plainly, that if he did not give the purwanna for the purchase of grain, and sanction my taking measures for getting boats and camels, he must stand the consequences; that, however my arrangements might be delayed, all others

were going on, and that it was a poor way to show his avowed desire to meet the Governor-General's wishes, by acting as he was doing; he repeated all his former assurances, and said every thing should be settled the next day.

"After sitting about half an hour, we got our leave, and came away. On the road to Sobdar's, I was met by a person from Noor Mahomed Khan, to say he could not see me that day (as had been arranged), but would call me to-morrow or next day. On coming out of Sobdar's, the Durbar Moonshee met me with a similar message, to which I gave salaam. By this time I had mounted my horse, and perceived there was not one person of respectability with me,—not a single horseman, and only five or six ragged Beloochees, without even swords, whilst the streets were crammed with armed men. The crowd at this time began to hoot and laugh as we passed, and by the time we got out of the fort, we were followed by a mob screeching and yelling. When we entered the narrow bazaar, between houses, the mob began to pelt stones. A very large one fell close to me; one passed by Doctor Deacon's side, and the Duffadar of horse was struck by one. I thought it best to move on, for in fact there was not room to turn. I suppose the ragged Beloochees with me saw my anger in my face, for even they said to me, 'there is no fear, Sir—be of good heart,' &c. Shortly after I reached the tents, Noor Mahomed Khan sent me some fruit, and his hopes that I had got safe home, to which latter part I replied, that I had escaped the stones thrown at me. At 11 o'clock at night, a Moonshee came to deliver some message from Noor Mahomed Khan, but I had retired long before, and did not see him of course.

"This morning, I directed the Moonshees to wait on the whole of the Ameers and to inform them, that I should go no more to visit them. I explained in the fullest and clearest language, my feelings of contempt; said, that the reflection of insulting an Ambassador fell on them, but that I knew my own situation too well, to place myself in the way of being so treated again.

"Whilst the Moonshees were getting ready, the Durbar Moonshee, who had been at the tents last night, arrived to inquire for my health, and to read to me some ukbars that had come the preceding evening from Khyrpore. The only one requiring the slightest notice, was an alleged copy of a letter from Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, to Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore, saying, he had heard of my coming from Cutch, and Captain Burnes, with an army from the north; that it was high time to stop these proceedings; that he only awaited the signal to do so, and to 'take the news' of Luckput* and Bhooj, with other like insolence. I told the Moonshee, ironically, that it was highly honorable to Noor Mahomed Khan to send me such stuff; that the writer was the man whom he had called a 'besotted madman,' and who had set the Hyderabad Government at defiance a few months before, but that his low nonsense was worthy of nothing but my perfect contempt, and that it had.

"When my Moonshees got to the Durbar, Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans were together. They swore by all the Korans that ever were written, they knew nothing of the intended insult to me; that, as soon as it came to their notice, they had taken steps to discover the offenders, and had confined a number of people in the stocks, whom my Moonshees might see; that they felt as though the stones had struck their own heads, and that they would send people to apologize, &c. &c. The Moonshees afterwards produced the credentials of my appointment as Resident in Sinde, which I had sent with them, to make my message more impressive. When Noor Mahomed Khan perused that paper, he instantly observed, that his object was gained, and that it gave me unlimited powers; that he would get a treaty from me, fixing the number of days our troops were to be in Sinde; that he would feed them for that period; that his troops would escort the boats with stores, &c., up the Indus; and that our troops from Kurachee to Shikarpore*, with many equally friendly and wise remarks, to all of which the Moonshees replied as they merited.

"Sobdar told the Moonshees he was covered with shame at what had occurred, that he understood I was to go to Noor Mahomed Khan's, after leaving him, and that as it was but a few steps, he had not inquired who accompanied me.

"The native agent got the purwanna about grain, after vast trouble and

* Sic in orig.

prevarication. He had to run backward and forward from Noor Mahomed, the Nawab Ahmed Khan (who keeps the seals), and the Durbar Moonshee, till it was dusk. Noor Mahomed Khan repeated to him this evening, his intention to get a paper from me, fixing the period the troops were to stay in Sinde, before they could advance, &c. &c. He said, that all his brotherhood insisted on this, that Moobaruck Khan had written to him to tell him, the Khyrporees were ready to obey any orders they might receive; that he thought of calling out his own (Noor Mahomed's) army, and sending some thousand men to Vikkur and Kurachee, to keep the people quiet and peaceable when our troops arrived, at which remark the Moonshee laughed outright, and said I would do the same.

"This being Sunday, I refused, on that plea, to see any people. The fact is, such is the eternal round of unmeaning messages and hollow inquiries, that unless I adopt some rule, I shall have no time to think of more important matters.

"I heard to-day, from good authority, that Meerza Kosroo had told Noor Mahomed Khan, that all the demands contained in the secret memorandum were of my coining, that I should be called on to prove them, and that on no account should I be allowed to leave Hyderabad.

"I also heard that Noor Mahomed Khan purposes to send some man of very high rank, to apologize to me for the insult I received the day I went to Sobdar's, and to beg to hush it up."

4. You will readily collect from the preceding extracts, that I see no hope of your succeeding in your application for the loan of the fort of Bukkur: on the contrary, I think any such application may tend to throw the whole of the arrangements connected with the Cabool army into confusion, and to oblige us to come to an immediate open rupture with Sinde. Ameer Roostum Khan may, himself, be ready to do as we wish, but I hear from every quarter, that his authority is merely nominal, and that his brothers and relations keep him in perfect subjection. I have, myself, seen a letter from Meer Moobaruck to NoorMahomed Khan, written within the last ten days, in which he, and all the Khyrpore family, express in the most humble terms, their devoted allegiance to Noor Mahomed Khan, and their readiness to sacrifice their lives in his service. It will also be in your recollection, that the messages sent to me by Meer Roostum were given to the acting native agent most secretly, and that, whatever he may be disposed to do, we can only look for his public and practical friendship, when our troops are in the country. The same remark may be applied to Meer Sobdar, at this place, but, from him, I must add, that since I have been here, I have had nothing beyond the most common and general assurances of friendship and good will, and no syllable, or hint, that could lead me to imagine, that he would be prepared to join with us in setting aside Noor Mahomed Khan, or any of the other Ameers.

Meer Roostum Khan will probably show you my letter to him. I was obliged to be very general in the expressions it contains, lest it might involve him in trouble. I inclose, for your notice, an English translation of the memorandum I forwarded to him, describing the intentions and objects of the British Government.

I shall forward a copy of this letter for the information of the Governor-General of India.

No. 26.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, October 9, 1838.*

1 HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India, copies of letters which I yesterday wrote to Captain Burnes in reply to two from that officer, in which he begs to know what decision I had come to regarding Sinde, with reference to the instructions contained in your dispatch of the 6th (8th) ultimo, and also what I had done on the subject of the purchase of grain.

2. I have already transmitted *viâ* Bhooj, the public and secret memoran-

dums which I had delivered to the Ameers the day of my arrival at this place, and the extract I now forward of my letter of the 4th instant, to his Lordship's private secretary, together with the transcript of the paper on grain, camels, &c., referred to therein, will, I trust, satisfy the Governor-General (until I shall have time to report my proceedings from the first, in consecutive order), that I have placed affairs at this faithless Durbar on the best footing that was possible, consistent with the great object of not throwing serious impediments and confusion into the arrangements connected with the advance of the armies destined for service in Affghanistan.

3. In addition to the extracts from my diary, quoted in my letter to Captain Burnes, I have to acquaint you that Noor Mahomed Khan sent his eldest son, Meer Shadad, with every officer of rank about the court, here yesterday afternoon to apologize to me in the humblest terms, for the insult that had been offered to me on the occasion of my visit to Sobdar Khan on the 5th instant, and to entreat me to beg the Governor-General of India to overlook what they admitted was a disgraceful and unpardonable act.

4. I told Meer Shadad (and the rest of the deputation), in reply to the messages they brought, that his father had taken the only step that was likely to satisfy his Lordship; that the whole affair was equally a disgrace to the Government and People of Sinde, and that the slightest repetition of it must lead to an instant cessation of all friendly intercourse. They protested that Noor Mahomed Khan saw the matter in the light I put it; that he was overwhelmed with shame; that he had punished all those whom it could be discovered had any hand in the outrage, and intended to turn them out of the city; and finally, that he was our most devoted friend and ally, and his country and its resources at our service.

5. I have myself hardly a doubt, though I see little chance of proving it, that the plot was got up by Noor Mahomed Khan himself, in revenge for my visiting (although with his previous consent) Sobdar Khan, and to show me how little power the latter chief had at the capital. One of the Moonshees had gone to Noor Mahomed Khan with some medicine from Dr. Deacon, whilst the deputation was with me. Noor Mahomed Khan, after observing that he had just received positive intelligence of the retreat of the King of Persia from Herat (which he had previously assured me was not the case), went on to say, "Tell Colonel Pottinger, that so long as he depends on me, there is nothing he can ask for or require, that shall not be done, but if he attempts to carry on his arrangements through other channels, he will find that those to whom he trusts will only cheat and disappoint him." This remark the Moonshee thought was meant to be applied to Sobdar Khan, but he very properly pretended not to understand it in that light, and simply replied, that I looked, of course, to Noor Mahomed Khan, as the head of the Government, to give effect to all the wishes of the Governor-General of India.

6. The question of a money payment by the Ameers of Sinde to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk is, in my humble opinion, rendered very puzzling, by two releases written in Korans, and sealed and signed by His Majesty, which they have produced. Their argument now is, that they are sure the Governor-General of India does not intend to make them pay again for what they have already bought, and obtained, in the most binding and solemn form, a receipt in full. I have procured copies of the releases, and will give them my early attention; but in the mean time I may respectfully observe, that it seems to me, that the matter can only be properly discussed and settled when the King and his ministers shall be on the spot to support and establish the royal claims.

7. With regard to the ability of the Ameers of Hyderabad to pay, I have made such inquiries as lay in my power, without exciting alarm or suspicion. The result is, that the highest estimate of their treasures is one and a half crores, the lowest seventy-five lacs. The revenue of all Sinde is reported to have fluctuated between 40 and 50 lacs per annum for a great lapse of time; when the Mission was here in 1809, it was then believed to be 42 lacs, and now it is said to be 50; assuming this latter amount, the Khyrpore share is 15 lacs for the Hyderabad family*. This is subdivided into four portions of 6½ lacs each, for which the Ameers actually drew lots some time ago, and Noor

* Sic in orig.

Mahomed Khan gets an extra lac and a half for Durbar expenses. Of the Khyrpore share, Meer Ali Moorad is stated to have one half to himself, and Meers Roostum Khan and Moobaruck the other moiety. No one here knows any thing of the Meerpore financial affairs.

8. If this estimate be correct, or nearly so, it at once explains why the Ameers cannot be so rich as they have been reported. I confess myself I should not have supposed the total revenue of Sinde at this day to amount to so much as 50 lacs, especially when I recollect that at least one-fourth of the very finest part of the country is occupied by game preserves, and this evil is daily increasing; when Dr. Hathorn was in Sinde, three years ago, Meer Nusseer Khan depopulated two very fine villages, to include their lands in a new shikargah which he was making, that it might be well stocked and ready for the use of his eldest son, then a child of eight or nine years old. The Ameers, one and all, publicly give out, that they do not want to amass money, or to improve their territories; and, when I pointed to the deputation that met me this time two years at Tatta, the great advantage that city would reap from Noor Mahomed Khan's residing there a couple of months in each year, the answer was: "His Highness has enough for all his wants and enjoyments, as well as for his dependents, and why should he give himself trouble in seeking for more."

9. In conclusion, I can only repeat what I have said to Captain Burnes, that it would be foolish to hope for the cordial cooperation, or sincere friendship, of this Government. I think it has shewn that it would join our enemies to-morrow did it see they were stronger than we; and the assistance it is about to afford us (if such it can be called) is the fruit of its fears, and not of real goodwill. Whilst I am fully satisfied of its insignificance as a military power, I cannot conceal from myself that its active enmity would be at this moment most inconvenient. It could destroy all our grain depôts, sink, or otherwise render useless, all the boats on the rivers, prevent our getting camels to hire or buy, and deter the people of the country whom we shall require (boatmen, coolies, &c.), from entering our service. These obstacles we should of course overcome in time, but at present we have not that time to spare, and I conceive that we must shape our measures according to the exigency of the moment.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 27.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, October* 13, 1838.

SINCE the dispatch of my letter to you of the 9th instant, Noor Mahomed Khan has continued to evince the same suspicious, unfriendly and despicable conduct, which was described in that communication and its accompaniments.

2. On the afternoon of the 9th instant, I paid Noor Mahomed Khan, at his special request, a visit. What passed on that occasion I have already reported in a letter, dated the 10th instant, to the private secretary of the Governor-General; suffice it, for the present, to say, that the Ameers Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed Khans, and all the chiefs about the court, were loud, and, apparently earnest, in their professions of devoted friendship to us, and to our cause; and I came back to my tents, hoping that matters would go on smoothly, until his Lordship should have time to consider and decide on ulterior measures.

3. Yesterday morning, I sent my Moonshees to ask Noor Mahomed Khan's sanction to my selecting a site for the Residency, for which I said there was a suitable spot near my encampment, which I would point out to any one his Highness might depute. I also told the Moonshees to get a copy of the ukbar sent to me by Noor Mahomed Khan on the 6th instant, alleged to contain a copy of a letter from Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore to Meer Roostum Khan, not Meer Moobaruck, as I then erroneously stated.

4. On hearing my message about the Residency, Noor Mahomed most distinctly and positively refused to allow anything of the kind. He said that that question must lie over until the British troops were clear of Sinde, and

that with respect to the ukbar, he had sent it to me as a friend, and saw no advantage in my reporting such things to Government.

5. The Moonshees urged all the obvious arguments that occurred to them, as to the light in which the Governor-General and myself would view the refusal on the subject of the Residency. With regard to the ukbar, they told the Ameer, as I had directed them, that he had made it of importance by sending it, even in the middle of the night, to be communicated to me; but all they said made not the smallest impression.

6. Noor Mahomed Khan then desired the Moonshees to inform me, that he had determined to call his army, and to station bodies of it in different parts of the country, to protect the crops, and give the people confidence. The Moonshees reasoned with him on this topic; asked how his present sentiments could be reconciled with what he had told me of the Sinde army, plundering friend and foe; pointed out how unnecessary it was, the bad appearance it would have, and the certainty that it would excite, instead of allaying, alarm. He was, however, positive, and, at last, simply directed the Moonshees to tell me the orders were issued.

7. A message I sent to Noor Mahomed, on the afternoon of the 12th, seemed, at first, to weigh with him about the Residency; but he resumed his original stand this morning, and further told the Moonshees that he had heard from Meer Roostum Khan, that the army should not cross the Indus at Bukkur, but must do so at some ferry higher up, for which I must forthwith arrange. It happened, that I had received a most friendly letter from Meer Roostum the evening before, and I sent the Moonshees back to shew it to Noor Mahomed Khan, and to explain, what I had done a hundred times before, that the movements of the armies depended in no way on my pleasure, but were fixed by the Governor-General. When the Moonshees shewed Noor Mahomed the letter I had received from Meer Roostum Khan, he pretended to be in a great rage, said that Roostum Khan wrote him one thing and me another, and, with regard to his Lordship's orders, he most insolently and loudly observed, that they were not the decrees of the Almighty, and could, and should be altered.

8. He intimated to the Moonshees that he was about to send the Nawab Mahomed Khan Talpoor, and Chuta Khidmutgar, to Khyrpore, to afford comfort to Meer Roostum Khan; that they would wait on me before they started; and that I must give them a message to Meer Roostum, to the effect that I concurred in all that Noor Mahomed Khan proposed. The coolness of this request is only equalled by its absurdity, and, should the deputation come, they will have a very different sort of intimation from me. I think it is evident that Noor Mahomed Khan's object now is, to involve the Chief of Khyrpore in the same predicament in which he has placed himself, but, from the confiding style of his letter to me, I have little doubt but that all stories of his fears and resolves, are invented here, or written in his name from Khyrpore.

9. I shall send a copy of this letter for Captain Burnes' perusal, and also one for the information of the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 28.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *October* 15, 1838.

ON the evening of the 13th instant, on my arrival here, I had the honour to address you, and to send a letter from the Governor-General to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

2. I have just been joined by Lieutenant Leech, from Shikarpore, who has made known to me the very important contents of your letter of the 28th ultimo, written before you had reached Hyderabad, and by which I learn that the Ameers have refused, in a very unfriendly manner, a passage through their country to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, and that Lieutenant Leech should be prepared to quit Sinde, as you yourself might have to take that step.

3. Under such circumstances, I await with the utmost anxiety intelligence

from you, as I cannot, with such facts before me, proceed with any security in the outlay of the public funds.

4. I am likewise most peculiarly situated with the Chief of Khyrpore, for he has none of the hostile feelings towards us which appear to exist in Lower Sinde; and, though I am fully aware of the Governor-General's friendly disposition towards him, I deem it imperative on me to do nothing with him till I hear from you.

5. I mean to proceed to Khyrpore on the morning of the 17th, to pay my respects to Meer Roostum Khan, but I shall make every preparation to retire on Bhawul Khan's country if I receive unfavourable intelligence from Hyderabad. This will be the more necessary, as reports are in circulation here, that your reception there has not been cordial, which I trust most sincerely are erroneous.

6. I have forwarded a copy of this letter to the Governor-General by the dawk which is now laid from this to Simla.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 29.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Roree, Bukkur, October* 15, 1838.

I HASTEN to lay before the Governor-General of India a copy of a communication that I have just transmitted to Colonel Pottinger, and which exhibits a very unfavorable complexion of affairs in Lower Sinde.

2. I have just been joined by Lieutenant Leech from Shikarpore, and learn from him that the person styling himself a Persian prince has arrived at Shikarpore, after being honoured with gold-mounted saddles and large presents in money at Hyderabad, now giving himself out to be on pilgrimage to the great shrine of Bhawah bug at Mooltan.

3. With reference to the intercourse between the Ameers at Hyderabad and the Shah of Herat, which Lieutenant Leech failed to trace at Candahar, I have now to report, on the authority of that gentleman, that he has found out it was kept up with constancy; and an informant on whom he can rely assures him that the Meers had expressed their intention of marching on Candahar, as soon as the Shah of Persia had taken Herat.

4. Lieutenant Leech considers that the retirement of the Persians is now to be relied upon. If it is so, Government have had a fortunate opportunity presented of knowing who are our friends and enemies in the day of need.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

P.S.—Since this letter was drafted, I have been visited by the Minister of Meer Roostum Khan, accompanied by five or six of the most respectable men of this court. The Minister communicated to me that letters had arrived over night, from Noor Mahomed Khan, at Hyderabad, stating that the English sought to break their treaties, and requesting a brother of Meer Roostum Khan would come on the emergency to Hyderabad. My counsel was solicited as to the course Meer Roostum should pursue, and I told the Minister that it appeared to me quite uncalled for that any of the family should go, unless Colonel Pottinger advised it, which he had not yet done. This for the present gives this party confidence and satisfaction.

No. 30.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Roree, October* 16, 1838.

I DO myself the honor to forward an express which has just reached me from Colonel Pottinger.

2. I cannot withhold from the Governor-General my conviction, that, with the feelings evinced at Hyderabad, our hopes of doing anything satisfactory to supply the army in Sinde are now vain.

3. I shall await Colonel Pottinger's decision on your letter of the 20th of September, for unless it works a change in the Hyderabad Ameers, I see great probability of his quitting Sinde, and my being obliged to follow him; for though the Khyrpore family are as cordial as ever, it is not to be pretended they can cope in force with their relations at Hyderabad, and must submit to them till we appear in the field.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 31.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

(Extract.) *October* 16, 1838.

I DO not now imagine that the Ameers have any fixed resolution of opposing us, though I am pretty sure they have (at least Noor Mahomed Khan) frequently thought of it, and whenever they speak of leaving their capital, or calling out their army, I always consider it an indirect way of threatening that final step. The decided and unvaried language I have held to them, has satisfied them that we are prepared to take, should they not give, a passage through their country, both for the Bengal and Bombay armies; and I hope, for the reasons assigned in the concluding paragraph of my letter of the 9th instant, to Mr. Macnaghten, that their fears will deter them from proceeding to open hostilities.

The great difficulty I have in arriving at any positive conclusion as to what Noor Mahomed Khan will do, springs from his utter and abandoned want of either truth or shame. He took advantage, only last evening, of one of my Moonshees having gone to the palace with Dr. Deacon, to send me a number of long messages, breathing nothing but friendship and devotion to us, and yet at this very instant I am aware, that there is some sinister plot on foot, which I cannot yet fathom, but which a few days will probably develope.

Instead of the deputation spoken of in the 8th paragraph of my letter of the 13th instant, being sent to Khyrpore, a letter was dispatched that night to Meer Roostum Khan, by a messenger, mounted on a very fleet camel, who promised to deliver it in less than thirty-six hours, although the distance is about 209 miles. I surmise, that Noor Mahomed has written to Meer Roostum, to say that if he will forbid the approach of the Bengal army, the Bombay troops shall be prohibited, and, if necessary, opposed in their advance up the river. I may, however, be mistaken in this surmise. The express may relate to the expediency of strengthening the garrison of the fortress of Bukkur; or, it may have reference to the refusal which I have had about building a Residency, and express a hope that a similar course will be adopted there, should Captain Burnes make any application on that subject. The former surmise, however, seems to me the most likely, and, should it prove correct, my longer stay here would be, I conceive, improper and undignified. I have, therefore, resolved, in such a case to demand my passports and quit Sinde. This *dernier resort* may open their eyes even at the twelfth hour, or they may refuse to let me depart; but I shall take care to let them clearly understand, that my detention will make no change in the measures of my Government, except rendering them more decided and rapid.

I see no immediate chance of the Ameers breaking with us, and our doing so with them depends on the commands of the Governor-General. The very evening that Noor Mahomed Khan dispatched the express to Khyrpore, alluded to in the 6th paragraph of this letter, he sent a very civil message to me, to ascertain the exact number of boats and camels which would be required, that they might be collected, and this too, after he had intimated to me, that he had ordered out his army, which, I understand, he has not yet done. I retu[illegible] a reply, saying, he should know in due time, but that the advan[illegible] Bombay troops depended on the movements of the Bengal arm[illegible]

more clearly convey my ideas of the Ameers than I did in the following quotation from a letter which I wrote to the Governor-General's private secretary on the 10th instant: "Their plans and evasions have varied a dozen of times each day. At one time I have thought that I should get nothing done, and that the next step would force me to demand my passport and quit the country; and the next I should have supposed (had I been ignorant of all that had previously passed) that the Government of Bombay could not have been more ready than the Ameers, to second and aid in the Governor-General's measures."

I shall send copies of this letter to the Governor-General's camp, both by the way of Bhooj and Bhawulpore.

No. 32.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Roree, Bukkur, October* 17, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, which reached me at 6 P.M. yesterday, and was dispatched, along with its accompanying express, to Mr. Macnaghten in half an hour. As the dawk is now laid, I hope no such delay will again occur as happened in the case of the Government dispatch of the 8th of September.

2. I now forward to you copies of the two last communications which I made to Government, yesterday and the day preceding, and the impressions to which the bad complexion of affairs at Hyderabad gave rise.

3. Under such circumstances, and with the sentiments expressed by yourself, in which I wholly concur, regarding the unadvisability, at the present, for a request of the fortress of Bukkur, I shall on no account bring forward that subject now, and I see very little prospect, as I stated in my official letter to Government, of placing any of our arrangements on a satisfactory footing in this quarter till the country is occupied, and we can dictate.

4. My anxiety to hear of the receipt of the instructions of the 20th of September last, forwarded to you on the 4th instant, is now much increased, for as it is no longer open to consideration that a force occupies Sinde, and will, ere this, in every probability, have sailed from Bombay, it is evident that we must gain our ends at once, or come to an open rupture with Sinde. However much the former result might be regretted, it has appeared to me that it is the only mode of finally placing affairs on the Indus on that footing that can authorize the advance of our army into Affghanistan. There is just one hope left to us, that the Ameers have hitherto misunderstood our reserved policy with regard to them, and that when they discover that we are serious in all our measures, they may quickly submit; but, after their unfriendly reception of yourself, and culpable correspondence with Persia, which is not even now denied, I must respectfully state, that, without the permanent presence of British troops in this country, we can place no reliance on its rulers.

5. With regard to the letters addressed from Meer Moobaruck at Khyrpore to his Highness Noor Mahomed Khan, you are aware that the former has very little influence here, though he undoubtedly seconds the measures of Noor Mahomed Khan; but he has a great opponent in Ali Moorad, and encounters opposition from Meer Roostum and his minister. Besides this, one fact is conclusive: he neither shows the letters which he writes to or receives from Hyderabad, and they do not possess the sanction of his brethren. Noor Mahomed Khan has been making some faithless promises to him about some disputed lands, and quoted, with equal falseness and presumption, the influence he will have in the matter from you.

6. You will perceive, in one of the accompanying letters, the nature of Noor Mahomed Khan's communications to Khyrpore, the request he makes for a member of this family, and the manner in which it has been met. If I learn from you that it is advisable to send one of this party to Hyderabad, I shall lose no time in earnestly suggesting it; but we have much to gain by a want [illegible]ion between them, of which we may take the more advantage, since it is [illegible] seeking; and if we can hold on in Sinde till the army arrives, we [illegible]ined a very important point. I have, however, taken no active

proceedings to separate the one from the other, since it is my duty to act in subordinate co-operation with yourself, who have a so much more responsible part to perform at the capital of the country.

7. Since these people can only, at this time, be judged by acts, I do, however, think that the proceedings of the Khyrpore chief deserve reward. He has not only refused to receive that impostor Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan and the so-styled Persian prince, but to give them bread, avowing in public that he will have nothing to do with the enemies of his religion and of the English; widely indeed different from the honorable reception accorded to them at Hyderabad. The latter declaration is not without its value at this time, and if Noor Mahomed Khan is anxious to play off the Khyrpore family as his dependents, it might be an argument of weight to give him such facts.

8. I beg that you will place no reliance on any ukbars which may be written from this quarter, conveying impressions of my having identified Government with this family, to the prejudice of their Hyderabad relatives, since, though it is my duty and endeavour to conciliate them, and give reasonable hope, yet I am fully alive to the delicacy, if not danger, while such a tone as is described in your diary, obtains at Hyderabad. If, however, it is possible to keep a footing at all in this country, the time has assuredly arrived for befriending others than those who have shown themselves faithless and ungrateful.

9. If the state of affairs when this letter reaches you makes it prudent to lay a dawk to Kotree, a stage south of Laloo, on the Khyrpore road, I will take it up from that place, and thus have an opportunity of transmitting your important letters earlier to the Governor-General, for whose information I shall send a copy of this communication.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 33.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *October* 18, 1838.

I HAD occasion to order the native agent to go yesterday morning to Noor Mahomed Khan for a passport for a return boat. He took the opportunity to send me word that he had determined, in spite of the opposition of his brethren, to allow me to build the Residency, where and in what form I liked, that he would accede to all the applications I had made, or might make, to him, and that he would direct his Prime Minister, the Nawab Ahmed Khan (who was acquainted with every feeling of his breast) to wait on me in the evening, to communicate these, his final sentiments.

2. The Nawab accordingly came to my camp about 4 P. M., and after conversing a short time on indifferent topics, he requested me to send my Moonshees away, as what he had to say was intended solely for my own ear. When the Moonshees had retired, the Nawab began asking me to give him a solemn promise, that what he was about to disclose to me should be confined to my own bosom. I told him that such a promise was impossible, that I reported every word that passed, as far as was in my power, to my Government, and that I must do the same on this occasion. He then explained, that he meant it was not to be made known to the Beloochees, and others, in Sinde, and went on to tell me that Noor Mahomed Khan had brought on himself the enmity and ill will, not merely of his brethren and chiefs, but even of the very ladies of his family, by connecting himself so closely with us; that the whole of the two former had combined to insist on his refusing to permit the British armies to pass through Sinde, or to allow me to remain here as Resident; and that he (Noor Mahomed) had therefore deputed him (the Nawab) to find out what I would do, in case the other Ameers and chiefs persisted in the above combination.

3. To this I replied that I did not believe a syllable of what he had told me; that I had heard of such reports since I came here, from Noor Mahomed Khan alone; that all the other Ameers of Hyderabad had been latterly most friendly and civil; that nothing could be more so than my letters from Khyr-

pore; and that a vakeel of Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore had been with me a few hours before, charged with a letter and messages of the most amicable import.

4. The Nawab then said I would see in the course of a week or ten days, whether what he had told me was correct or not, but that, in the mean time, Noor Mahomed desired to know what would be the consequences, as far as he was concerned, of such a combination. He proceeded to observe, that no country could go on quietly with so many chiefs, that the British army would soon be here, and that Noor Mahomed was ready to join with it in taking possession of all the territories of the other Ameers of this place, as well as of Khyrpore and Meerpore, to whom we might afterwards assign a "bit of bread," according to their deserts. He next insinuated that Noor Mahomed Khan had apprehensions for my personal safety, and said that the Beloochees were a violent and unmanageable set; that I had had a specimen of what they were capable of, by their stoning me on my return from Sobdar's, and that if they went farther, he hoped he would not be held responsible for their acts.

5. I answered the preceding remarks by repeating my disbelief of the combination he had spoken of. I said that, if it did exist, it was Noor Mahomed Khan's duty to name the persons concerned in it, that I might call on them, through him, for explanation; that the British Government had always desired to be on the best of terms with all the Ameers of Sinde; that it looked, however, to Noor Mahomed as the head of the State; that I had seen no cause to doubt any one's friendly feelings towards us except Noor Mahomed's, and that he might depend upon it, he would be the first to be called to account for any outrage committed on me.

6. I produced my appointment as Resident in Sinde, to show that I was accredited to the Durbar of Noor Mahomed Khan, and reminded the Nawab that it was chiefly at his (Noor Mahomed's) request that separate agreements had been given to the junior Ameers. He interrupted me by observing that my appointment gave me full powers, that Noor Mahomed Khan would now formally request me to abrogate those agreements, and that then the course which we (that is, the British Government and himself) had to take, was obvious and plain. I expressed my astonishment, that he, the Nawab, should fancy it possible, that the British Government would place its good faith in the hands of such a person as Noor Mahomed Khan; declared that our word and treaties were not to be trifled with; and that the 16th Article of the Treaty entered into lately with Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, was a most conclusive proof of the Governor-General's great consideration for the interests of all the Ameers.

7. The Nawab begged to see that Article, and I gave him the Treaty which he read through from beginning to end. He returned it to me with the remark, that what I had said was undeniable, and, after sitting a few minutes longer, rose to take leave, with this observation. "It is clear Noor Mahomed Khan is ruining his own house, with his own hands."

8. The above is the substance of a conference which lasted above two hours and a half, but I consider it needless to trouble his Lordship, at this busy period, with the details of the arguments I made use of. It seems to me very evident, that Noor Mahomed's object and hope were to gain a declaration from me, that we would support him against his relations, and then to have turned them against us. In the course of the conversation, the Nawab inquired as to the terms we were on with Mehrab Khan of Kelat, and what we intended to do should that chief refuse to allow our troops to pass through his country. He said that Shah Shooja had in vain tried to persuade him to join the royal army on His Majesty's former march; that he, Mehrab Khan, was a sworn ally of the Baruckzye chiefs, and that he had shown his feelings towards us by turning Mr. Leech out of Kelat. I had no difficulty in refuting these remarks. I said that the Khan of Kelat was bound by treaty not to take part in a civil war; that he was a ruler of too much sense and foresight to place himself, to no good purpose, on bad terms with us; and that the story of Mr. Leech's ejectment was an utter fabrication, as I had positive reason to know from that gentleman's own letters.

9. Whilst the Nawab was with me, one of the Moonshees who had attended Dr. Deacon to the palace, had an interview with Noor Mahomed Khan's eldest son, Meer Shadad. The Meer, under an affectation of great privacy,

told the Moonshee in different words, very nearly what Ahmed Khan had communicated to me. He said that his father told me one thing, and the other Ameers and Beloochee chiefs another; that these latter were not to be trusted, and that it behoved me to be on my guard against treachery, by watching my camp well at night. He further observed, that there was no chance of our success in Affghanistan; that his father had received intelligence that the son of Mehemet Ali, Pasha of Egypt, was on his route with an immense army, to the assistance of Dost Mahomed Khan of Cabool, by the order of Mahomed Shah; and that if that aid was not sufficient, the Shah would come himself.

10. Although I had given the Moonshee no instructions, not anticipating any such extraordinary communication, he made a very proper reply. He said at great length that Noor Mahomed Khan's shuffling and unfriendly conduct was a disgrace to him; that if a hair of my head, or that of one of my lowest followers, was injured, the Governor-General would look to him, Noor Mahomed, to answer for it; that the reports about the Egyptian army were too ridiculous to be listened to; that a short time would show to the world, the power and resources of the British Government, and its ability to support its friends, and chastise all who opposed it. The interview ended by Meer Shadad begging that what had passed should be kept secret from me, but the Moonshee told him he dared not do so, and then the Meer hoped that I would take no official notice of it, which I have no intention of doing.

11. As I am anxious not to detain these cossids, I can only at present briefly state my opinion, that none of the Ameers of Hyderabad, save Noor Mahomed Khan, are inclined to cavil about the advance of our troops, either from the North or South; and I do not think he will venture to object unless he can, by working on their fears, get them to join him. His perverseness, no doubt, partly proceeds from his innate suspicious and treacherous disposition, but chiefly, I should infer, from his feeling conscious that the matters referred to in the secret memorandum, are hanging over him. I cannot, however, even form a conjecture as to what he can hope for from the course he is following, as he must see that every new scheme only exposes him to contempt.

12. The P. S. to the accompanying letter will show that I have secured 500 camels at Kurachee, and Captain Melvill informs me I may reckon on an equal number at least, from Cutch. I have ascertained that there are from 100 to 150 river boats of all sizes at this place, which were about to start, agreeable to annual custom, for the northern districts, to bring down grain. As they would be absent from two to three months, we should lose their services, and I am making the most economical arrangement I can, for taking them into our employ. When Noor Mahomed Khan heard of this, he said it was quite unnecessary, as he would provide boats when they were wanted, but it is impossible to trust his word in the smallest degree.

13. I shall forward a copy of this dispatch for the information of the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

P.S. *Oct.* 29.—Whilst this letter was being copied, I had the honour to receive the duplicate of yours of the 20th ultimo, forwarded through Captain Burnes.

I shall immediately request the Bombay Government to dispatch a force of not less than 5,000 men, composed of the following arms:—

European Dragoons - - -	300
Ditto Infantry - - -	1,000
Native Cavalry - - - -	500
Ditto Infantry - - -	2,500
Horse Artillery - - - -	Two Troops.
Foot Artillery - - - -	Two Companies.
Pioneers, Sappers, &c.	

I see no chance of any heavier guns than 12-pounders being required, with corresponding howitzers or mortars.

I am of opinion that the whole of this force should come by the Indus. It might perhaps, though I am by no means sure of that, be more easily disembarked at Kurachee, but it would land them in, I may say, a desert, devoid of

supplies, forage, or carriage, all of which would have to be drawn, supposing that to be practicable, from the vicinity of the river, at a sad loss of time, and tenfold expense.

I shall now arrange finally for all the boats, camels, &c., I can secure, being taken into our pay from the 1st of December or earlier, should it seem advisable. I shall beg Captain Melvill to hire all the camels he can procure in Cutch, and, to send them off, so as to be at Vikkur by the above day.

I shall leave one of my assistants, whom I expect daily, here in charge, and proceed to Vikkur myself about the time the army may be looked for, as I anticipate considerable trouble at first, and believe I shall be more useful there, at that period, than any where else.

No. 34.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 19, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that I reached Khyrpore yesterday, and this morning delivered to Meer Roostum Khan the letter of his Lordship, which was received in a highly satisfactory manner.

2. A few facts will better serve to mark the continued good feeling of the Khyrpore family than general observations from myself. A son of the minister met us high up the river; a jumptee or state barge was sent for our use; the minister in person received me at Roree, and conducted me to this place; and after I arrived, the second son of Meer Roostum Khan and the eldest son of Meer Moobaruck Khan came in person to welcome us.

3. On delivering the letter from the Governor-General and that from Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, Meer Roostum Khan said he was not only an old friend of the English, but one who prayed for their prosperity, and that he hoped to show he was sincere. He then said it was a day of rejoicing for two reasons, —that an officer of the British Government had arrived at Khyrpore, and that the joyful news of the Persians having been compelled to retreat had been confirmed at the same time, which event his Highness had heard with most sincere rejoicing, and which he attributed to the determination of the English in what he called blockading their seaports in the Gulf of Persia.

4. I have this evening again visited Meer Roostum Khan, and fully and freely explained to him all the objects of Government with reference to the restoration of the Shah, and the assistance we expected of him. He desired his minister to make out purwannahs on all those under him, to give Lieutenant Scott every aid and assistance, and declares that his country's resources are at our disposal.

5. I shall not at present enter upon political matters, further than to state, the Meer expressed his indignation at the treatment Colonel Pottinger has experienced at Hyderabad, and that, if I advised it, he would send down a relative of his own to meet the Resident, and by whom he would convey his sentiments to Noor Mahomed Khan and his relatives. I inclose a copy of my last letter to Colonel Pottinger on the state of affairs in Sinde.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 35.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 21, 1838.

IN my letter of the 19th instant, I conveyed to the Governor-General of India, the sentiments and disposition of the Meer of Khyrpore. On my visit to him on the evening of that day, I stated that I had freely and fully explained

to him the objects contemplated by the British Government in setting up Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

2. I availed myself of the first mention of Colonel Pottinger's name, to tell the Ameer that there were so many strange reports sent down from Khyrpore to Hyderabad, that the Resident had been obliged to be very general in his expressions, as it might involve him in trouble, but that gentleman was his sincere well-wisher, and, as was stated in the Governor-General's letter, he would meet his Highness's wishes in a way that must be acceptable, since he was to be made a party to the Treaty of April last, which he so much desired.

3. The Ameer replied, that he was very much gratified at the Governor-General's letter and Colonel Pottinger's instructions, and that, with reference to what had been written from Khyrpore to Hyderabad, he would soon set matters right by contradicting any impressions that were abroad, and placing before Noor Mahomed Khan and his relatives, that he was an adherent of the English, and resolved to abide by them. He deplored the line of procedure which they were adopting; said it sprung from the wrong-headedness of youth, and that there was no experience among them.

4. Some remarks had previously been made by the Minister about the period which the army was to continue in Sinde, and the hardship of Northern Sinde, which was friendly to us, being traversed by British troops, while the Southern parts would not be visited by them. I had given no reply to these observations, but I now stated, without hesitation, to Meer Roostum Khan, that troops were not only coming from Loodiana, but from Bombay, and that it was the wish of the Governor-General to act by him and the other Ameers of Sinde, with a clear good faith, and that I must plainly tell him that the advance of the army into Affghanistan would not free Sinde from our troops, which would be kept here till Shah Shooja was firmly fixed on his throne, and that our reasons for this measure were the communications on the part of the Hyderabad Ameers with the Shah of Persia, of which he, as a well-wisher, had already apprised*, and which we now had found out from Kelat, and other quarters.

5. Meer Roostum Khan declared that he had no connexion with Persia, and hoped that the Governor-General, when he found such was the case, would be well disposed towards him. I gave him a strong assurance that his Lordship was well disposed, and that, if matters did not take a turn in Lower Sinde, the British would make other arrangements; but it was my earnest counsel to him, that he should, without loss of time, use all the influence he possessed with his relatives at Hyderabad, to prevent calamity overtaking them. He replied that I would see how far he would go when I read his letter to them.

6. Yesterday morning, a deputation waited upon me from the Ameer, and brought a letter for Colonel Pottinger, and one for the Ameers at Hyderabad, a translation of which I append, and which is a very explicit document. I shall send it off, without delay, to Hyderabad.

7. The deputation entered into a long explanation of our not having fulfilled our promises with regard to Rozan, but I shall not mix up that subject with the present dispatch, and report on it separately: suffice it to say, I told them that they had themselves to blame.

8. They now recurred to the money which would have to be paid to Shah Shooja; and the Minister asked if it were the Governor-General's intention to cause Meer Roostum Khan to contribute his share? I replied that it was not his Lordship's intention to compel any of them to pay money, unless they sued for his Lordship's kind intervention, for it was very clear that Shah Shooja, when restored to the throne of Cabool, was their master; and that, if a settlement were not speedily come to with His Majesty, I concluded that the old tribute of eight or nine lacs of rupees per annum would be demanded from Sinde, and that the Ameers here, as well as at Hyderabad, had better make present sacrifice to gain an eventual benefit.

9. It was now stated, that the Khyrpore family were poor; that Shooja had excused their paying anything last time; and that his oaths on the Koran, which they had, were as so much waste paper if we did not interfere; and, finally, if they did us good service, it was but right to expect we would reward

* Sic in orig.

it by friendly considerations in return. I replied, that the Governor-General was most ready to do so, and that the time was come when the friendly and the unfriendly would be judged, and the faithful and the faithless.

10. One of the party said, that it was very evident that the jungles of Sinde would soon be on fire if our wishes were not met; that Meer Roostum Khan had met them, that the orders for grain were ready, that men would also attend on Mr. Scott. I concluded by saying, that nothing would stop us in our determination to restore the Shah, and that all the Governor-General wished, was in progress to be accomplished at Khyrpore.

11. While concluding this letter, I have received the accompanying dispatch, dated the 13th instant, from Colonel Pottinger, which indeed exhibits a contrast in the affairs of Hyderabad and Khyrpore; at the capital they get worse and worse hourly.

12. There is in my mind no resource left but to move by boats, if practicable, a portion of the force destined for Affghanistan, with all possible expedition, down upon Sinde, either to Mithenkote or Subzulkote. We shall thus overawe the Ameers of Hyderabad, give courage to the family at Khyrpore, and probably prevent a rupture, which is now very problematical. The demonstration might perhaps be made by our ally, the ruler of Lahore, but its effect will be small compared with the advance of our own troops.

I have, &c.,

A. BURNES.

No. 36.

Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

October 21, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters; one through a hired cossid, stating that in consequence of the state of things in all quarters, that you, together with Meer Mahomed Khan, Meer Mahomed Nusseer Khan, and Meer Sobdar Khan, were to go to Seevistan, and that I also, accompanied by Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad Khan, should, without the least hesitation, join you at that place, to consult together about political matters, and settle them in presence of each other; the other letter, through Loung Meer Jut, a confidential person, informing me, that as I was ill, and, for which you were very sorry, I should send Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad to you, in whose presence you would settle affairs, unrivalled as you are in favoring your brothers. May God give you long life, and good health, and enjoyment, with prosperity. I was unwell for about two days, on account of the heat, but now, I thank God, that by his favor, and your prayers, I am recovered. Be tranquil about that.

Captain Burnes arrived at Khyrpore on the 18th of October. In the first meeting I have only welcomed him, and learned from his expressions that both he and Colonel Pottinger have been appointed, by the Governor-General of India, to manage the affairs of Sinde. You know that the English possess India, and many other extensive countries; notwithstanding the Sikhs are so aspiring, still they lean towards the English with extreme friendship, harmony, and mutual concord, as if they were of one party. In such a case, it is but foresight to make friendship with them, and advisable to act according to Colonel Pottinger's inclinations, that he may not be offended, for he is an Ambassador and a guest. Captain Burnes is still stationed at Khyrpore; after learning that gentleman's intentions in two or three days, I will send you a full account of them; you are, by the favor of God, possessed of wisdom and intellect; whatever your opinion directs is most advisable. I have detained Loung Meer Jut, as long as Captain Burnes is here.

No. 37.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Hyderabad, October* 22, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge to receipt of your three letters of the 4th, 13th, and 15th instant, the former from Ahmedpore, and the two latter from Roree, Bukkur.

2. The postscript to my dispatch to Mr. Macnaghten of the 18th instant (transmitted to you that evening under a flying seal), will have told you what I have done in consequence of the instructions from Mr. Macnaghten of the 20th ultimo.

3. The Governor-General's khureeta, and your letter to Noor Mahomed Khan, were delivered to him on the 19th, but it was only yesterday that I was enabled to obtain the purwannas, which I herewith send, and one of which you will see is intended for Lieutenant Leech, agreeably to his letter to me from Shikarpore under date the 12th instant.

4. I am very sorry that that officer should have reason to complain of the reception he met with at Shikarpore. Noor Mahomed Khan told me himself he had dispatched orders for every civility to be paid to Mr. Leech, but it is impossible to believe a syllable he utters, and the treatment Lieutenant Leech experienced is in good keeping with what I have myself met with at this place.

5. With respect to the purport of your letter of the 15th instant, it is only necessary for me to say, that I had fully made up my mind, had Noor Mahomed Khan persisted in his refusal to give Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk a passage through this province (he subsequently even wrote me direct, that he meant to oppose the King), to have demanded my passports, and gone back to Cutch; but so long as I have been enabled to keep matters even on the doubtful footing on which they stand at this moment, I have felt it to be my duty to remain at my post. Had I been forced to act differently, I should not have failed to apprise Lieutenant Leech and yourself, in time to enable you to quit Sinde.

6. The accompanying copy of a demi-official letter, dated the 20th instant, to the private secretary to the Governor of Bombay, will show you that all the communications I have made to Noor Mahomed Khan have had no effect in turning him from his purpose, and not one hour passes without my obtaining additional proofs of his inimical feelings. I have this day learned that he either has dispatched, or is about to dispatch, cossids to Kelat and Candahar, likewise several pair to Loodiana, the latter to bring him intelligence of what is passing in that quarter.

7. I shall, I dare say, in a few days find out what the nature of the letters to Kelat and Candahar may be, but it is not difficult to conjecture; and Meer Shadad told my Moonshee this morning that his father was resolved not to allow any officer of high rank to remain here as Resident, although he had no objection to a doctor who would attend to his wishes (literally, be in his obedience), but nothing more.

8. I have not time to get this letter copied to send to Mr. Macnaghten by these cossids, but should you have an early opportunity, you will oblige me by forwarding a transcript of it. I shall write to Mr. Macnaghten in the course of to-night, and send off another pair of cossids to-morrow, who are waiting here from you. I will take the same opportunity to send you a copy of a letter, which I wrote on the 20th instant, to the Assistant in charge at Bhooj, on the subject of money, and which, whatever events may turn up, it is desirable you should see.

9. If I may venture to offer you my opinion, it is, that you should remain in the vicinity of Bukkur, and send natives to buy grain in all directions. If the Ameers break with us, the grain will of course be lost for the present; but it seems to me that your desisting from the avowed object of your visit to that neighbourhood, might betray alarm, and strengthen our enemies in their determination to oppose our plans.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

P.S.—Within this half hour, Syed Tukee Shah, the son of Ismael Shah,

has brought me a message from Noor Mahomed Khan, expressive of his great anxiety to meet our wishes in every way. He says he has sent peremptory orders, besides the purwannas, for his officers to attend to your every order, and that he has dispatched Gholam Shah, the Governor of the Jhattee pergunnas, to Vikkur, to collect grain, boats, and camels, for the Bombay troops.

No. 38.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 24, 1838.

ON the 21st instant I had the honour to transmit to you copies of my two letters to Mr. Macnaghten, explaining the state of affairs in this quarter.

2. Subsequent to those communications I was earnestly solicited to enter at once upon a treaty with this family, and, though I told them that the affairs of Sinde were confided to you, a deputation waited upon me with a memorandum of the expectations of the Khyrpore Ameer, to which I was to append those of the British Government. This document I send in translation and Persian.

3. The opportunity of entering into negotiation was thus highly favourable; but I had no authority to do so, till I heard from you; and merely observed to the party which brought the memorandum, that they had asked much of us, and given nothing; to which they replied it was for me to state our wishes. I shewed the treaties made at Hyderabad by yourself in April last.

4. Inferring, I suppose, from my reserve that I was not satisfied with what they had stated, the Ameer drew up a second memorandum, which I also append in translation and original. They distinctly here state that they place themselves under the protection of the British Government; and there is a passage in the document which they have endeavoured to word with care, which might go far to place the fortress of Bukkur in our possession. They set forth that we are not to touch the forts on this bank or that bank of the river, without alluding to one on an island, and consequently neither, but I place no reliance on such a meaning of the passage, though it is an amusing instance how often cunning men overreach themselves.

5. In reply to this second document, I said that you were prepared to make them a party to the Treaty of Hyderabad, but the Ministers and agents from all three Ameers declared themselves ready to go much further, and that if they at Hyderabad had been so fortunate as to get such a treaty, they expected more and were prepared to go further. I was requested then to shew them how the treaty would stand, if made with them as at Hyderabad, to which I saw no exception, and drew up the document, subject of course, as I said, to your revision and alteration.

6. Before I had time to hear what was thought of this document, or to send translations of all three as above stated, I received at 8 A.M. this morning the accompanying express of the 5th instant from Simla, which I forward without delay, as it more than ever counsels a change in our relations here; and the Governor-General's disposition to do so, must be very much strengthened by the tone of insolence, if not insult, kept up by the Hyderabad Ameers.

7. I send the accompanying paragraphs of my letter of the 21st instant, by which you will see that your express of the 15th was dispatched that day. I have heard of your despatch of the 8th having passed Bhawulpore on the 19th.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 39.

Treaty proposed by the Ameers of Khyrpore.—No. 1

THE cause of writing this document is this, that I, Captain [redacted]rnes, make a treaty on the part of the East India Company with their H[redacted]nesses Meer

Roostum Khan, the chief and ruler of his own territories, Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad Khan Talpoor, and conclude it in this manner: That, generation after generation, and descent after descent, as long as the glorious sun by the command of God gives light to this world, the Government of the East India Company will by no means and on no account, either directly or indirectly, interfere with, or claim, the territories enjoyed by the said Meers, nor will take possession of a dam or drain of their country, and will never interfere in commanding, or punishing, in its revenue and political affairs.

If any of the Ameers' officers, Beloochees, servants, dependents or relations, being afflicted, should murmur against the said Meers, they will not be heard; and supposing any of these people to complain of injustice or oppression, they will not be listened to. If any of the peasantry, either Hindoos or Mahomedans, in the Meers' territories, should complain against them, I will never demand inquiry into them. Justice, decision of cases, and all other important affairs of their jurisdiction, will rest in their own hands. The friend of both parties will be considered a friend, as the enemy of both sides will be deemed an enemy.

No. 40.

Treaty proposed by the Ameers of Khyrpore.—No. 2.

THE cause of writing this document is [redacted] I, Captain Burnes, make a treaty on the part of the East India C[redacted]h their Highnesses Meer Roostum Khan, the chief and ruler of h[redacted] Meer Moobaruck Khan, Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and Meer Ma[redacted]or, and conclude it in this manner,—That, generation after[redacted]ent after descent, as long as the glorious sun by the comman[redacted] to this world, the Government of the East India Company w[redacted]ans and on no account, either directly or indirectly, interfere with, or claim, the territories and fortresses on this bank or that bank of the river enjoyed by the said Ameers, nor will take possession of a dam or drain in their country, and will never interfere in commanding or punishing, in its revenue or political affairs. If any of the Meers' officers, Beloochees, servants, dependents or relations, being afflicted, should murmur against the said Meers, they will not be heard; and supposing any of those persons complain of injustice or oppression, they will not be listened to. If any of the peasantry, either Hindoos or Mahomedans, in the Meers' territories, should complain against them, I will never demand inquiry into them. Justice, decision of cases, and all other important affairs of their jurisdiction, will rest in their own hands. If any from adjacent quarters should oppress the Meers of Khyrpore, or covet them, the Government of the East India Company will protect and assist the Meers. Please God no change, even equal to the point of a hair, will ever take place in this arrangement.

No. 41.

Draft of Treaty with the Ameers of Khyrpore proposed by Sir A. Burnes.—No. 3.

DRAFT of a treaty between the East India Company and the Ameers of Sinde, concluded by Colonel Henry Pottinger, agent to the Governor-General for Sinde, on the one part, and their Highnesses Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad Khan, on the other.

ARTICLE I.

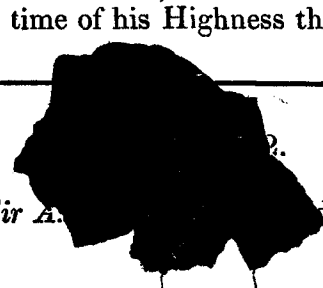
In consideration of the long friendship which has subsisted between the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde, the Governor-General engages to use his good offices to adjust the present differences which are understood to subsist between the Ameers of Sinde and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, so that peace and friendship may be established between the two States.

ARTICLE II.

In order to secure and improve the relations of amity and peace which have so long subsisted between the Khyrpore State and the British Government, it is agreed that an accredited British Minister shall reside at the Court of Khyrpore, and that the Ameers of Sinde shall also be at liberty to depute a vakeel to reside at the Court of the British Government; and that the British Minister shall be empowered to change his ordinary place of residence as may from time to time seem expedient, and be attended by such an escort as may be deemed suitable by his Government.

ARTICLE III.

The East India Company hereby agrees never to covet one rea of the revenue of the share of Sinde in possession of Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad Khan, nor to interfere in its internal management. The said Company further agrees to preserve the same friendly relation towards the said Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Moobaruck Khan, and Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and their descendants, that it does towards the other Ameers of Sinde, namely, Ameers Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Mahomed Khan, Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Sobdar Khan, in conformity with the terms of the perpetual treaty made in the time of his Highness the late Moorad Ali Khan.



2.

Sir A. ... dent in Sinde.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October 25, 1838.*

IN forwarding Mr. Macnaghten's express of the 5th instant, yesterday, I did myself the honor to report on all which had passed at this place regarding the Khyrpore Ameers being made a party to the Treaty of Hyderabad.

2. The document which was drawn out in your name, and but a counterpart of the treaty of April last, and subject to your revision, I informed you I had sent to the Ameers, but I had no information to give you of its reception.

3. Yesterday afternoon I was waited upon by the Minister and agents from all the other Ameers, and found that document gave them small satisfaction. They said that they were to be treated as the Hyderabad family, when they deserved and expected more; and that, what was further, we absolutely consigned them over to that family by such a treaty; that they wished their enemies to be our enemies, and their friends our friends, and to have no connexion with any Government but the British.

4. I requested the party to point out to me the passages which consigned them to Hyderabad, and they immediately referred to the mode of naming the reigning Ameers there, and the late Moorad Ali Khan, in the 3d Article, but I assured them that the construction was erroneous, that the Governor-General sought if possible to see differences removed from among the family, and not to increase them.

5. They then stated that they wished to add a fourth Article, placing themselves under our protection, and promising to do nothing without our counsel and advice. I told them to reflect seriously on what they asked, for it was a grave matter. The deputation at once replied in Meer Roostum Khan's name in the following Persian couplet:—

"We have consigned to you all we have, you know the account of it great or small."

6. With such feelings and determinations, and with Mr. Macnaghten's various letters regarding the Governor-General's views of its being highly desirable to conclude a separate engagement with this family, I felt myself all but called upon to enter upon negotiation and accept at once their offers. I however deemed it prudent to stave them off for eight days, saying you were

the Agent for Sinde, and would in that time give me a positive answer. They reluctantly consented.

7. They now presented me with a draft of the treaty to send to you, which I inclose, in translation and original. You will perceive that a fourth Article is added to it, which I might get made much clearer by binding them to have no communications with Persia and Powers to the west, unless ceremonial presents with the Brahooes; but I do not like to agitate what I could not conclude, since the disappointment was very marked that I would not act at once.

8. You will observe the name of Meer Mahomed introduced with the three brothers here; this has been done at the request of all, and they leave it to you, to approve or not. No objection occurs to me. He is the son and representative of Meer Roostum's Khan's elder and deceased brother.

9. The conversation now turned on the proceedings at Hyderabad, and I was surprised at the freedom with which they spoke of them. They said that Noor Mahomed Khan was a man of rapacious sentiments not to be relied upon: one day of one mind, another of another; to use their own word, a "Soudaee," and that he would be brought to reason by the proceedings of Khyrpore.

10. I have dispatched Shootur Sowar with this communication express to you; and I earnestly entreat that I may be furnished with your sentiments of the kind of treaty you are ready to enter upon under your seal, in Persian as well as in English, or these people will be sunk into despair; and they certainly deserve another fate. I have not hesitated to assure them that, as far as coveting their country, and mediating between them and the Sikhs, you will readily agree; and I even stated that you might not only approve all the four Articles (though the latter might be modified), but even add others. Nothing but a prompt reply will satisfy them. I am in great hopes that I shall find powers on the way for me already: but a neglect of their wishes after this letter reaches you, will, I fear, be fatal to this family; they will fall under our displeasure and be ruined, and I clearly think without just cause.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 43.

Treaty proposed by the Ameers of Khyrpore.—No. 4.

DRAFT of a treaty between the East India Company and the Ameers of Sinde, concluded by Colonel Pottinger, agent to the Governor-General for Sinde, on the one part, and their Highnesses Meer Roostum Khan, and Meer Moobaruck Khan, Meer Moorad Ali and Meer Mahomed Khan, on the other, (drawn up by the Ameers of Khyrpore for consideration) October 24th, 1838.

ARTICLE I.

In consideration of the long friendship which has subsisted between the British Government and the Meers of Sinde, the Governor-General engages to use his good offices to adjust the present differences which are understood to subsist between the Meers of Sinde and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, so that peace and friendship may be established between the two States.

ARTICLE II.

In order to secure and improve the relations of amity and peace which have so long subsisted between the Khyrpore State and the British Government, it is agreed that an accredited British Minister should be resident at the Court of Khyrpore, and that the Meers of Sinde shall also be at liberty to depute a Vakeel to reside at the Court of the British Government, and that the British Minister be empowered to change his ordinary place of residence as may from time to time seem expedient, and be attended by such an escort as may be deemed suitable by his Government.

ARTICLE III.

The East India Company hereby agrees never to covet one dam or drain of the territories enjoyed by their Highnesses Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Moobaruck Khan, Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and Meer Mahomed Khan, or the fortresses on this bank or that bank of the river, nor will the said Company, by any means, or on any account, either directly or indirectly, interfere with the revenue and political affairs. If any of the Sindian officers, Beloochees, servants, dependents or relations, being afflicted, should murmur against the said Meers, they will not be heard; and, supposing any of these people should complain of injustice, they will not be listened to: if any of the peasantry, Hindoos or Mahomedans, complain, the decision of cases, and all other important matters of the said Meers' jurisdiction will rest in their own hand. From generation to generation, as long as the sun shall shine, this friendship shall last, in conformity with the treaty formerly made with Meer Roostum Khan.

ARTICLE IV.

If any one from the adjacent quarters should oppress the said Meers or covet their country, the East India Company will protect and assist them. The said Meers, however, bind themselves never to oppress or interfere with any one out of the territories enjoyed by themselves, without the sanction of the East India Company. Please God, no change, even equal to the point of a hair, will ever take place in this arrangement.

No. 44.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 25, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to transmit copies of two letters with the document attached, which I addressed yesterday and to-day to Colonel Pottinger, regarding the paramount importance of coming to a definite settlement regarding affairs here. They are so full that I have nothing further to add.

2. I forward two dispatches from Colonel Pottinger which have just reached me, which, though far from satisfactory, give more confidence than his preceding letters. Noor Mahomed Khan's conduct has no defence.

I have, &c.,

A. BURNES.

No. 45.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sindé Residency, October* 25, 1838.

WITH reference to the 6th paragraph of my letter of the 9th ultimo, I have the honor to inclose copies and translations of the treaties given to the Ameers of Sinde by His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk.

2. When I offered the opinion expressed in that letter, I had only heard the releases read by Meerza Khoasroo, and the impression on my mind is that in doing so, he introduced phrases or words that rendered them of greater validity than they appear to be on a critical examination. The one given to the late Moorad Ali Khan is drawn up with great skill and caution, and left the question of tribute, at least, exactly on the previous footing. That granted to the present Ameers is stronger; as will be observed, it contains a formal renunciation in behalf of the King, of any sort of claim or pretensions in Sinde and Shikarpore and their dependencies; and promises that none shall be made. How this is to be got over, I do not myself see, but I submit the documents, with every

deference, for the consideration and decision of the Governor-General of India.

3. From the inquiries I have been able to make subsequently to that date, I have every reason to believe that the estimate I then formed of the revenue of Sinde was considerably overrated. I understand, that the shares of each of the Hyderabad Ameers have not exceeded five and a half lacs of rupees for several years including every item, and above one half of this was received in kind, grain, ghee, coarse sugar, oil, forage, &c., and transferred by their Highnesses to their dependent chiefs and followers, who seldom receive above one third of their salaries in cash, the overplus, kind, being exchanged both by these latter classes, and the Ameers themselves, with merchants for such foreign productions as they may require.

4. The difficulty and tediousness of raising money with the unlimited credit I hold in every part of India, are strongly corroborative of the above facts, and I am told, that much of the foreign, and most of the internal, trade is carried on by barter amongst even the higher description of merchants, which is of itself conclusive evidence of the great want of a circulating medium in this country, and leads me to imagine that the Ameers do not possess the treasures that have been generally supposed, though they have no doubt considerable wealth, in addition to their ready cash and bullion, in jewels and other costly ornaments.

5. My last dispatch brought down my proceedings to the 18th instant, and a postscript which I added to it acknowledged the receipt of the duplicate of your letter of the 20th of September, and informed you, that I would immediately write for the Bombay troops, which I accordingly did, by a pair of cossids that left on the 19th of this month.

6. On the 18th I sent the Moonshees to make inquiries for all the Ameers. Noor Mahomed Khan said to them, amongst other things, that he was sadly hurt at my having told the Nawab Ahmed Khan, at his conference with me the preceding day, that our friendship was equal for all the Ameers. He observed, that this was the return he got for his devotion to our cause. What he meant by our friendship being equal was my refusal to break our treaties with them at his request, and, as he had thought fit to allude to that subject, I sent him back an answer, that friendship was a thing that could not be served out in bits; that I had met with none whatever from him, since I last came to Hyderabad; that the most trifling request was cavilled at, and procrastinated; and that he must not suppose that I was to be blinded to the real tenor of his conduct, by his sending me dinners and fruit, and talking of his devotion to our cause.

7. Two days before this, Nusseer Khan had desired the Moonshee privately, to request me to believe all that was communicated on his behalf by one Bahadoor Khan; this person came to me after dusk on the 18th to offer me his master's purse, country and life, as a sacrifice to the Governor-General. I replied to the message by returning my best thanks for the Meer's civility.

8. I obtained information on the 19th, that a pair of cossids who had come from Candahar about three weeks ago, had been the bearers of a letter from the chiefs of that place to Noor Mahomed Khan, to the effect that they had arranged, through the King of Persia, for assistance from Russia, and advised the Ameers to do the same. The cossids were sent back immediately with a reply saying, that they the Ameers were all ready; that they had already intimated their fidelity to Mahomed Shah; and that, until they could send a vakeel of their own, they wished the son of Rahumdil Khan (now in the Shah's camp) to act for them. I have further learned that, instead of recalling Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, the bearer of Noor Mahomed's ureeza to the Shah, agreeably to the promise made to me on the 4th instant, an express had been sent off to him that very night the 4th to make every exertion to reach the royal camp speedily.

9. In addition to these unequivocal proofs of Noor Mahomed's unabated enmity and treachery, my Moonshee was told by a person who was present, within these few days, when Noor Mahomed Khan said to his cousin Meer Meer Mahomed, that it was useless to trouble themselves any longer by studying our wishes, and that, in his Noor Mahomed's opinion, the best course was, at once to send me away, and declare their allegiance to Persia. Meer Mahomed refused

to be a party in any such sweeping measures; he said, that he had as yet seen no cause to doubt the Governor-General's friendship, and that until he did so, there was no object to be gained.

10. His Lordship will not fail to observe, that this secret intelligence exactly tallies with what was told to me by Nawab Ahmed Khan, and by Meer Shadad to my Moonshees on the 17th instant, as reported in my despatch of the following day. The latter (Meer Shadad) was one of the channels through which Noor Mahomed evidently hoped to frighten me either into compliance with his requests, or to induce me to go away; when I desired the Moonshee to notice the indecorum of such communications coming from Meer Shadad, his father said he was a child and talked nonsense without his orders. A few days before this, Shadad had himself been boasting of his having attained his twenty sixth year, and that he would be the principal Ameer on his father's death. When, therefore, he persisted in the course I had reprobated, and told the Moonshee on the 22nd instant, that no officer of rank would be permitted to remain here as Resident; that the native agent Jeth Anund, must be removed and replaced by a Mussulman; that a doctor might live here who would obey them, and that my leaving one of my assistants here, and going back to Cutch would be quite as objectionable as remaining myself, in as much as the assistant would be solely guided by my instructions, I sent word to Noor Mahomed Khan, that I considered this communication as coming from himself, and should report it accordingly.

10. On the 20th instant Noor Mahomed Khan sent me word that he wished to write to the Governor-General, in reply to his Lordship's letter which had come through Captain Burnes. He said he would give purwannas both for the latter officer and Lieutenant Leech, as well as for the Kurachee merchant, Nao Mull, who had written to say, he dared neither hire camels for me, nor act as broker for the sale of my bills, without the Ameer's sanction.

12. The Moonshees heard when they were at the Durbar this morning, that Sobdar Khan had advised a payment to be made to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, through us; he considered it a good bargain for Sinde, and would be ready to advance any sum that fell to his portion, with reference to the period he had enjoyed any share in the country, and to the proportion that the amount fixed by the British Government might bear to the total arrears of tribute: he, Sobdar, also objected, as he had twice done before to my Moonshees, to that sentence in the agreement lately given to him, under the seal and signature of the Governor-General of India, which says it is granted at the request of Noor Mahomed Khan, and informed the latter that he meant to apply to me to get those words expunged. The 6th paragraph of my dispatch of the 18th instant will show, that Noor Mahomed actually contemplated the possibility of his getting those agreements annulled, and I have no doubt but he has threatened the other Ameers with doing so. The object I had at the time, in introducing the phrase, was to confirm and even strengthen Noor Mahomed Khan's supremacy, which I foresaw might suffer in the eyes of his brethren and chiefs, from our granting separate assurances to the junior Ameers, but he has proved himself so totally unworthy of the confidence and support we have bestowed on him, that I respectfully recommend that I may be authorized, when a fitting opportunity shall occur, to amend the agreements, by omitting the words in question, and stipulating instead, for the friendship and fidelity of those to whom they may be eventually confirmed.

13. The next time I had occasion to send the Moonshees to the Durbar, I desired them to say, with reference to the remarks made by Meer Shadad as to who should remain as Resident, and the removal of the native agent, that these were matters which rested solely on the pleasure of the Governor-General; that if Noor Mahomed Khan intended to send me away, he had better do so without delay; and that I was quite ready, on receiving an intimation of his wishes to that effect, to return to Cutch. Noor Mahomed Khan attempted to use the old argument of Shadad's observations not being official, but on that point, they silenced him at once, by what I had instructed them to say. He then observed that he only was the medium of expressing the determination of his brother and the Beloochee chiefs, and declared, that the combination which he had announced to me through the Nawab Ahmed Khan on the 17th instant, was still in full force.

14. The Moonshees reminded him, that he would be held responsible,

unless he disclosed the names of the parties to me, that they might be called on for their reasons. To this he answered, that the plot was still incomplete, and that he could not mention any man's name without his leave. The Moonshees inquired, with such a declaration, what became of his pretensions as the head of the Government, and told him he should have thought of all this before he aspired to that station. They likewise told him, as I had directed them, that if he fancied his having agreed to receive a British Resident had led to our armies coming into Sinde, he was entirely mistaken; that under all circumstances, we should have required a road through this province, and that there was nothing contrary to friendship in doing so, as was exemplified in the cases of Bhawul Khan and Mehrab Khan of Kelat. He seemed, however, to be little satisfied with their observations, and the Moonshees came back very doubtful as to the course he would adopt.

15. The conversation reported in the foregoing paragraph, took place in the forenoon of the 22nd. That evening, just before dinner, it was announced to me that Syud Tukkee Shah, the eldest son of Meer Ismael Shah, had brought a message of consequence from Noor Mahomed Khan. I fully expected he was come to warn me off, but to my great surprise, the message he delivered was expressive of the Meer's great anxiety to meet our wishes in every way. He said, that Noor Mahomed had sent peremptory instructions, in addition to the purwannahs, to his officers at Shikarpore, to attend to Captain Burnes' every order, and that he had dispatched Gholam Shah, the Governor of the Hattee pergunnas, to Vikkur, to collect grain, boats, and camels, for the Bombay troops; for all of which I desired my thanks to be given. The cause of this sudden change, I had no difficulty in divining the next morning, when I heard that the Ameers had received intelligence, to which they gave full credence, the preceding afternoon, from several quarters, that Mahomed Shah had gone back from Herat.

16. At breakfast time on the 23rd, Mahomed Khan, the brother of the Nawab Ahmed Khan, came with inquiries from Noor Mahomed, for my health, and to know how our tents had stood a thunder storm that had occurred the preceding night. When the Moonshees went to the Durbar to get an order for two horsemen to go to meet the camels from Cutch, Noor Mahomed was amazingly civil. He desired the native agent to mention to one, that he had been in the habit of corresponding with Bhawul Khan, Mehrab Khan of Kelat, and other neighbouring States, and requested me to ascertain whether the Governor-General wished him to continue to do so. He also said he waited my advice as to dismissing the Lahore vakeels, and sending one from himself back with them. Finally, he proposed that I should visit him next evening, the 24th, which I accordingly did, accompanied by all the gentlemen of the Residency. Nothing could be kinder than the Ameers were, and the whole interview was conducted in the most quiet and orderly style, forming a curious contrast to all my preceding visits. The conversation turned, of course, on the news from Herat, and I explained how the British Government had been prevented by an Article of Treaty, from earlier interposing in Kamran Shah's favour. Noor Mahomed abused the King of Persia, and the chiefs of Candahar and Cabool, as faithless rulers, who had met with their proper reward, and evinced that utter absence of all shame or veracity, which has formed so striking a feature of his recent demeanour.

17. After sitting nearly two hours with Noor Mahomed, we went to see some paintings in a new bungalow which Nusseer Khan is building. He himself accompanied us, leading me by the hand, and always putting me first, when we could not pass abreast. On my way back from the city, Syud Tukkee Shah rode with us, and when we came to the point in the road, clear of all habitations, where I have been in the habit of dismissing the Durbar officers, he insisted on seeing me to my tents. The other officers returned, and then Tukkee Shah, as of his own accord, but evidently acting under orders, introduced the topic of Captain Burnes's mission to Cabool, and finished by saying that if I would send a gentleman to that place, he would be answerable for Dost Mahomed Khan's acceding to any terms his Lordship the Governor-General might be pleased to dictate. I replied, that that was a subject with which I had no concern, that I knew from the newspapers and ukbars of the day, that Dost Mahomed had refused the proffered mediation of his Lordship,

and that I supposed it was now too late to remedy the mistake, except by perfect submission.

18. This morning early, Meerza Baker come to say that, if I had no objection, the Ameers were going to hunt for two or three days, and that I was to intimate every wish I had, to the Nawab Ahmed Khan, who had been ordered to obey me, as he would the Ameers themselves. I of course begged their Highnesses to please themselves, and they all, except Sobdar Khan, started during the forenoon. Before Noor Mahomed Khan went away, he sent a Khidmutgar to point out ground where I might forthwith commence building a Residency, adding, that if I did not approve of it, there was a very nice spot on the bank of the Indus, about two miles from the fortress, or else, he had a garden on the Fulalee River, east of the city, which was ready inclosed, and quite at my service. The Khidmutgar explained, that the site I had first fixed on, was too near the Tanda, or residence of the Nawab Ahmed Khan and his adherents, and that therefore it was desirable I should select another. Although there is not a single house within 500 yards of the spot I had thought of, I admitted the objection to be valid, and said it was a pity that Noor Mahomed Khan had not urged it at first.

19. I have entered into greater detail of my recent proceedings, in this dispatch, than I did, or rather had time to do, in any of the former ones, thinking it might be satisfactory to his Lordship, previous to deciding on the policy to be pursued towards this country. Of Noor Mahomed Khan's conduct there can only be one opinion, and I need not occupy his Lordship's time by enlarging on it. Of Nusseer Khan, I should say that he is well disposed towards us, but that his religious bigotry, and the influence which Noor Mahomed has established over him, led him away. There is a warmth and sincerity in Nusseer Khan towards us, that none of the other Ameers ever evince. He drops at once all forms, and assumes the courteous manner of a high bred nobleman in Europe. This pleasing feature in his character was particularly exemplified in his continued kind and delicate attentions to Dr. Hathorn, when he was here alone for many months, but I should conceive that no English officer can be introduced to, and converse with, Nusseer Khan, without imbibing this impression.

20. With respect to Meer Meer Mahomed Khan and Sobdar Khan, I have not it in my power to say much. They are both always kind and polite in their intercourse with me, and I think they are well inclined to be friends with us. The dissensions between Sobdar and his cousins seem now to be settled down into a rooted habit, and he and Noor Mahomed never omit an opportunity of reviling each other. The latter, however, speaks well of none of his relations. He told my Moonshee that Meer Mahomed was worse than a fool; that he allowed his country to be managed and enjoyed by the Nawab Mahomed Khan Talpoor, my Mehmandar in 1831 and 1832, who allowed him such a pittance as he thought fit; and that it would therefore be doing a good action to deprive him, Meer Mahomed, of it, and to give him a pension. Of Sobdar, he said he was a madman and a liar, who never spoke the truth, and consequently never believed any other person's word. The members of the Khyrpore family are, I fancy, very much on the terms on which I found them in 1832; but on this subject Captain Burnes will probably have reported from his recent observations. The Chief of Meerpore, Shere Mahomed, is a low, violent, and ignorant Beloochee. His sister is married to Meer Mahomed, whose name he always puts before that of Noor Mahomed in his letters. He is said to view our intercourse with Sinde, with great dislike, and I believe there is not the least doubt but he has been of late constantly endeavouring to prevail on all the other Ameers to come to an open rupture with us; should he attempt to interfere in any arrangements which his Lordship may direct to be made, either here, or at Khyrpore, I would strongly advise his instantly being called to account, and, if any of the other Ameers support him, they must stand the consequences.

21. With respect to our measures generally in Sinde, his Lordship will perhaps expect me to offer my sentiments. We can make no use of the secret intelligence alluded to in the 8th and 9th paragraphs of this dispatch, without compromising the whole of the connexions of our well-wishers; one or two individuals we might save, but it is not possible to protect whole families residing in different parts of this country. The communications made verbally by

Noor Mahomed Khan to the native agent, as shewn in my letter of the 25th of August last; his insolent and uncalled for reply to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, written after he had acknowledged that he knew the settlement of Khorassan was to be made under our auspices; his direct intimation to me, that he meant to oppose the King; his refusal to allow me to select a site for the Residency his hesitation to the last about allowing our troops to come by the river; his communications through Meer Shadad, after he was told that they were considered to be official; and the general tone of distrust and utter absence of good feeling, which is conspicuous in his intercourse with me, form altogether, in my humble judgment, a concatenation of circumstances that, laying all the secret intelligence aside, and supposing that no one steps forward to make further disclosures, places Noor Mahomed at the mercy of his Lordship the Governor-General.

22. I think it also more than probable that some of the Ameers of this place will object to our troops remaining at Shikarpore, and to our forming any new treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, in a manner that may oblige us to use force to put them down, and I shall await with great anxiety his Lordship's instructions, with which I hope to be favoured before the Bombay troops land in Sinde.

23. I beg to send a copy of my letter of the 20th instant, to the address of the Assistant in charge of the Residency in Cutch, on the intricate subject of money.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 46.

Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk to Moorad Ali Khan.

AS the slaves of the presence are now about to proceed to conquer Khorassan and Iran, I have entered into the following treaty, which I swear by God and the Koran to abide by. I will not remain above fifty days at Shikarpore, and will encamp on the Baghi Shahee. At the close of the above period, the slaves of the presence will move into Candahar, and I bestow Sinde and Shikarpore, and their dependencies, on you and your heirs, and successors, in the same manner that you now hold them. They shall be your territories and property. There shall be no oppression of the smallest degree, and, besides that, the royal favour will be greatly extended towards you, so that all the world may know it. This Treaty is vouchsafed on the Koran, for your perfect satisfaction.

Written the 7th of Muharrum, 1209 Higree.
(The King's Sign Manual.)

N. B.—The following remark is written in the handwriting of the King himself:—

"This Treaty is confirmed by the Koran. The royal slaves have bestowed of their own free will and pleasure, the country of Sinde and Shikarpore as a jagheer on Meer Moorad Ali Khan."

No. 47.

Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk to the Ameers Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed.

I HEREBY, in the name of God, and by the sacred Koran, make this agreement, by which I bestow on you the country of Sinde and Shikarpore, and all their dependencies, as a jagheer, which you are to enjoy and hold, generation after generation. The said country will remain with you for the future, and no sort of oppression, however small, shall be attempted, or practised. The friends and enemies of the King shall be considered your friends and enemies. Should you require any assistance in the way of troops on

account of Sinde and Shikarpore, it shall be afforded from the royal army agreeably to your wishes. The slaves of the presence have no sort of claim or pretensions on Sinde or Shikarpore and their dependencies, nor will any be made. The Treaty which the fortunate slaves wrote with the royal handwriting, on the sacred Koran, in the name of Moorad Ali Khan, of blessed memory, is renewed, as well as what is herein stated to you, and not a hair breadth's difference shall occur in it. The royal favour and approbation shall be bestowed and showered on you, beyond that shewn to the other well-wishers of the King.

[Signed by the King's Sign Manual in red ink.

No. 48.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 26, 1838.

I HAD not closed my express to you regarding the raising of the siege o Herat, when the Minister of Meer Roostum Khan waited upon me, with a most secret and confidential message, which I hasten to lay before the Governor-General of India.

2. I had just returned from visiting the Ameer, when a letter reached his Highness from Hyderabad, in the handwriting of Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Mahomed, and Nusseer Khan; and Roostum Khan said, he had now no secrets from me, after what I had communicated to him through his people yesterday. The letter was marked most secret.

3. The contents of this document, which I read, were as follows:—

From Noor Mahomed Khan. "I have written to you frequently since, by cossids, and once by a Shootun Sowar, and requested you to come to Sehwan. Colonel Pottinger is here, and we have not settled with him *till* we hear from you. Let me hear immediately what Captain Burnes is doing. Why have you not sent your son and acted with me? Your answer will decide all. I am ready for peace and for war, so be quick."

From Meer Mahomed. An urgent request for an answer is made, that they may guide their conduct.

From Nusseer Khan. A similar request.

Inclosed in the letter was a slip of paper in Noor Mahomed Khan's handwriting, entreating an answer quickly.

4. Meer Roostum Khan's Minister said he was desired to tell me, that his master had no secrets, and wanted my counsel what to do. Before advising him I wished to see what he said, as he was under agitation, merely adding that his course was clear. He then stated that Meer Roostum would instantly reply if I advised it, that he had consigned himself to the English, made his treaty, and thought only of peace and obliging the British. I gave full expression of thanks for such a noble and independent declaration, and suggested by all means his writing it. He has gone to dispatch the messenger.

5. With such adherence, I feel quite at a loss to know how we can either ask money, or any favour, of this family. I have never doubted their sincere disposition to cling to us, but in their weak state I did not expect such firmness in the day of trial.

6. I have sent off a copy of this letter express to Colonel Pottinger, and likewise made known to him the confirmation of the safety of Herat, and begged him to hand on the intelligence to the Bombay Government.

I have, &c.,

A. BURNES.

No. 49.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Khyrpore, October* 28, 1838.

IN my letters to you of the 24th and 25th of October, I addressed you in detail with reference to the feelings and dispositions of the Khyrpore family towards us. On the 26th instant, I transmitted to you the clear proof of their good feelings having been put to the test by the arrival of an autograph letter from Noor Mahomed Khan, and the answer returned to it.

It afforded me much gratification to observe, in one of your demi-official letters, that you were prepared to acknowledge Meer Roostum Khan's independence, and take him under British protection; and I lost no time in making known here that such were your intentions, and that I could now convert the hopes I had held out, into pledges, whatever might take place at Hyderabad. This communication was conveyed at once to the Ameer, and his gratification was very great.

On the 27th, his Highness sent the Minister and six other persons to wait upon me, and to request I would point out the best mode of shewing respect to the British army which was approaching, and the Commander-in-Chief who headed it. I replied at once, by arranging for its supplies, but I found, this was not their object, as the Ameer wished to send his Minister to the frontier, and his son along with him, if I advised it, as well as proper presents. I said that such wishes were very creditable to the Ameer, and would give satisfaction to the Government, and proofs to the world of the subsisting friendship.

The party then asked information of me as to the portion of money which the British would exact from them on account of Shah Shooja, stating that this family was poor, and that its devotion to us, under recent trial, should be held in view. I replied that this was a grave question; that I could assure them that the Governor-General would take a most liberal view of the case, and not confound guilty with innocent, and that it would be my special duty to bring to his Lordship's notice how much Meer Roostum Khan deserved at our hands, and that, though my impressions led me to believe the exaction would be small, compared with others, yet nothing, I said, must be considered to bind my Government.

A man of respectability had arrived at Khyrpore during the night on his way to Mecca from Cabool, and the conversation, which some of the members of this deputation had had with him, introduced the name of Dost Mahomed Khan, with a denial that he had sought a Persian alliance. I briefly told him the proceedings of that Chief, and, in consequence of such proceedings, how necessary it had become that Soonee rulers should govern Soonee subjects, and that Persia should be kept at a distance, and her friends removed from power.

A few observations served to convince me that some of those friendly to the Hyderabad party had quoted our treatment of Dost Mahomed Khan to prove our injustice, and what might be expected here; and I was glad of the opportunity to utter opinions which will, no doubt, find their way to Hyderabad as soon as this letter. The Baruckzyes, I said, were not enemies, and we wished to make them our friends, till they turned upon us, and we now intended to hurl them from power. The Talpoors of Sinde, continued I, were not our enemies, and we wished to make them our friends. Those who remained as friends would be continued as such, those who did not would be displaced; and, as the Suddozyes were now to reign in Cabool, the Caloras might again reign in a part of Sinde.

I need not observe that no part of this declaration was meant for Meer Roostum Khan, but it roused his agents to really an eloquent appeal on their submission, and, what was more, to a denial that any fear of immediate consequences was the foundation of their friendship, since from 1831, to this hour, they had been equally submissive to our will, and had incurred thereby odium at Hyderabad. I admitted the force of what they said, and concluded by telling them that frankness was better than concealment, that the Sindians

who hoped to stop the approach of the British army, might as well seek to dam up the Indus at Bukkur. The fiat had gone forth, an army was to march, and it was now on its road.

In my communications with these people I find that while they consider Sobdar Khan to be in our interests, they always declare Meer Mahomed to be equally friendly. They say that Noor Mahomed and his brothers frighten him, but, in heart, he is with Sobdar. The Meerpore family are likewise in constant communication with these people, and I find that Shere Mahomed Khan has even written to say that he will act as they do, and not as Noor Mahomed Khan; but I do not wish you to place reliance on this, as you have better knowledge of the doings of the Meerpore people.

Every hour serves to exhibit the feelings of Meer Roostum Khan; and, as I conclude this, Booland Khan, the messenger from Herat, whom I sent to the Ameer, at his request, has returned clothed in a dress of honour with congratulations on the victory which the British by their wisdom, and the Affghans by their bravery, have achieved over the Persians, and an announcement, that the victory is also his, and he had ordered a salute of artillery, which has just been fired.

Seeing, therefore, that the fate of Herat no longer embarrasses Government, and that the restoration of Shah Shooja becomes comparatively easy, it is almost to be regretted that any of us are in Sinde, since a declaration of war would be a better means of gaining our ultimate ends with a man like Noor Mahomed Khan than any sort of negotiation on the spot. It also lessens the risks to be incurred by your leaving Hyderabad, and for this reason I hasten to transmit to you, under a flying seal, further particulars from the west, as the hostility of Noor Mahomed Khan may thus be defeated, and an early opportunity presented of bringing him to condign punishment.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant. I have not much apprehension of any union of action from the evil doings of the Hyderabad Ameers and the Candahar Chiefs. The approach of our army from Bombay will give the former enough to think of, and the latter will be frightened at Kamran's freedom from the Persians. It is possible, however, that incendiaries may burn our depôts here, and inflict secretly injuries upon us, but we are going on with all our preparations. As you request, I shall forward your letter of the 22nd instant to Mr. Macnaghten.

No. 50.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 28, 1838.

IN continuation of my letter of the 25th instant on Khyrpore affairs, I have now the honour to forward, for the information of the Governor-General, a copy of my letter to Colonel Pottinger of this day's date which will, I believe, increase the satisfaction his Lordship must feel at the steady adherence of this family to us in the hour of trial.

2. I forward a copy of a letter from Colonel Pottinger to me, as he requests, since it may reach you sooner than the one he intends to address you.

3. I have not much apprehension of any union of action from the evil designs of the Hyderabad Ameers and the Candahar Chiefs. The approach of an army from Bombay will quiet the former, and Kamran's freedom from the Persians the latter, but it is just possible that incendiaries may harm our grain depôts, or otherwise injure us.

4. I have now to report that Lieutenant Scott sets out for Shikarpore tomorrow, with confidential and respectable officers from the Ameer, and that he is accompanied by Lieutenant Leech, who, as well as myself, has now received purwannas from Hyderabad.

5. I have not thought it wise to quit these people at this time until I have a reply from Colonel Pottinger to the treaty tendered, for they cling to me,

and if my presence can inspirit them, it would be wrong to depart, and the more so since everything is now in train for supplies being obtained; difficulties will doubtless yet arise, but they must be removed.

I have, &c.

ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 51.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Hyderabad, October* 29, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your three letters, severally dated on the 21st, 24th, and 25th instant. The former came to hand on the 27th, and the two latter in the course of yesterday.

2. I beg to offer you my best thanks for the intelligence from Herat, the outline of which had previously reached this place, and caused a great alteration in the tone and demeanour of Noor Mahomed Khan, as shewn in my dispatch of the 25th instant, to the address of Mr. Macnaghten, of which (to provide for accidents to the original) I now send a duplicate under a flying seal.

3. I have given the chief topic of your three letters the most mature and full consideration, and, with every disposition to attend to your advice, I regret to say that I am unable to concur in the view you take of the advisability of confirming, in anything like its present shape, the treaty which you have sent to me. The reasons I see for withholding my concurrence, I shall here record, as briefly as possible, with a view to their being submitted to his Lordship the Governor-General of India.

4. I consider, and always have done, Meer Roostum Khan to all intents and purposes a party to the treaty of April last, (I presume that that for receiving a British Resident in Sinde is referred to by you in the second paragraph of your letter of the 21st instant to Mr. Macnaghten), and to all other treaties made with the Government of Hyderabad. This is in fact expressly provided for by the first treaty I concluded with him in April 1832. He has been always kept regularly apprised of the origin, progress, and result, of all my negotiations with Noor Mahomed Khan, and has, on every occasion, expressed, in the most unequivocal terms, his satisfaction at, and approbation of, whatever has been settled between the latter chief and myself.

5. The draft of the Treaty which you have transmitted appears, therefore, to me, to be a mere repetition of what is already in full force, with the two additions of fixing a British Resident at Khyrpore, and taking that principality under our protection. The first of the stipulations I conceive to be quite unnecessary. I should have felt at all times competent to depute one of my assistants, or to go in person, to reside for any period I chose at Khyrpore, or elsewhere in the territory subject to that place; and, with regard to the second proviso, I cannot help viewing it as saddling ourselves with a serious and troublesome responsibility, in favour of a family who were at the very instant betraying their want of confidence in us, by the minuteness and tautology of the terms which they required, who were assuming a tone of equality and dignity totally opposed to their relative station with the British Government, and who had not (and have not, as far as I can discover) made any single sacrifice, or evinced any single sentiment, that gave them a shadow of a claim to the vast boon of our protection.

6. My own decided opinion is, and it also strikes me to accord with the intentions of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, that any new treaty which we may vouchsafe to Meer Roostum Khan and his family, should have, as the basis of it, a distinct and unequivocal renunciation of their adherence to, and all connexion, save friendly intercourse, with the Ameers of Hyderabad; that they should further bind themselves to hold no correspondence with the said Ameers, or any other foreign State, on political topics, without our knowledge; that they should pledge their fidelity and allegiance to us; and, finally, that they should agree to submit such disputes as they may have at present, or hereafter, with foreign States, to our arbitration. With such a basis I shall be ready to form a treaty with Meer Roostum Khan and his relations, according to

the terms they have asked for, granting them our protection, stipulating that an Assistant of the Resident in Sinde shall always reside at, or within, the territories of Khyrpore, and to submit it, with my respectful recommendation, for the ratification of the Governor-General of India. But it is unnecessary for me to point out to you, that the period for forming and carrying into effect such an arrangement, has not yet arrived.

7. Experience has taught me to place little or no value on the outward demonstrations of the friendly feelings of the Sindees. At the instant that we now know Noor Mahomed Khan to have been most active and bitter in his enmity towards us, he sent two state boats and a whole fleet of other vessels to meet me at the extreme point of his country, and, during my journey by land, he had no less than ten Khans in my camp at one time, besides a host of Khidmutgars and inferior officers. I do not intend by these remarks to impugn Meer Roostum Khan's individual sincerity, but I most certainly do doubt that of Meer Moobaruck, and I am likewise obliged to dissent *in toto* from the opinion you have expressed in the 6th paragraph of your letter to Mr. Macnaghten above quoted. As to the nature of the letter from Meer Roostum to Noor Mahomed Khan, it seems to me to be a specimen of the most abject servility, and there is no expression in it that conveys, in my estimation, the least cordiality towards us. He tells Noor Mahomed Khan, that nothing passed at your first interview but complimentary inquiries; that the English Government have acquired immense power and dominion in Hindoostan; and that they have lately entered into such close alliance with Maharajah Runjeet Sing, who is also possessor of vast resources and strength, that they may be said to be one; that it therefore behoves him (Noor Mahomed Khan), provided he shall see fit, not to take any step towards me which might offend me, and make me leave the country; that he (Roostum Khan) detains the trustworthy persons sent from Hyderabad, until he shall ascertain your objects, when he will do honor to himself by most humbly representing them; and he concludes by observing, that he (Noor Mahomed) has no equal in brotherly kindness and affectionate feelings.

8. Had Meer Roostum, instead of the above, written to Noor Mahomed Khan, that he was prepared to accede to every request you might bring forward, on behalf of his Lordship the Governor-General of India; that it was highly disgraceful, as well as impolitic, to act as the Hyderabad Government had done to me; that he (Roostum Khan) could no longer allow himself to be thought even a tacit party to such proceedings, and that he, therefore, intended to place himself and his family under our protection, I should have understood his meaning, as well as given him full credit for his sentiments, and been prepared to support him, even at the risk of an immediate rupture with this Durbar; but at present I see no reason why I should precipitate measures, and I must distinctly decline doing so.

9. I now send a letter for Meer Roostum, in answer to the one you transmitted, and a further communication which I have since received from him. I inclose a copy for your information, and you will perceive that, in addition to the assurances I have given him, I refer him to your verbal communications for my sentiments. I beg you will be so good as to say to him that, when we meet, I shall be most happy to attend to his wishes on the principle described in the sixth paragraph of this letter; that, in the mean time, I rely on his good sense and foresight to show his friendship for and confidence in the British Government, by aiding, in every way in his power, the objects and plans of his Lordship the Governor-General; that he must recollect, as his Lordship wrote to him, that now is the day when our real friends have an opportunity of displaying their sincerity, and that he may depend that all who do so will not lose their full measure of reward hereafter.

10. I shall send a copy of this dispatch for the information and commands of the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

P.S.—I could not get the foregoing letter ready in time to dispatch to you yesterday, and late at night I had the honor to receive your packet of the 26th instant, which the cossids brought in the extraordinary short period of three days, and for which I have rewarded them handsomely.

The information afforded by your letter to Mr. Macnaghten of the 26th

instant, does not surprise me in the least. I stated, in my letter of the 9th instant, to that gentleman, that I was sure Noor Mahomed Khan would join our enemies to-morrow, did he see that they were stronger than we: and every day's events have confirmed that opinion. In fact, he had avowed it distinctly, through his son Meer Shadad, who told my Moonshee that his father was wavering as to the course he would take; and, had Herat fallen, there can hardly be a question but I should have been ordered forthwith out of Sinde.

With regard to the communication made to you on the 26th by the Khyrpore Minister, I am free to admit that it shows a high degree of confidence in, together with a resolution to cling to us; and, should Meer Roostum Khan have made, or make, the distinct intimation to Noor Mahomed Khan, alluded to in the 4th paragraph of your letter, I shall of course instantly hear of it, and will not only ratify it, but warn this Government that any aggression of theirs towards the Khyrpore Chiefs will be considered an act of hostility shewn to the British Government.

No such information had arrived here this morning, when the Moonshees were at the palace. I might have wished it had been deferred for another month or six weeks, but the Khyrpore Chiefs shall learn that I will not shrink from confirming what you have led them to hope for, if I find they deserve it, and I will immediately set about framing a treaty, such as I have little doubt will meet with their cordial assent.

I omitted to mention in the body of my letter that all the Ameers had letters from Roostum Khan by cossids that arrived two days ago. Dr. Deacon was present when Nusseer Khan got his packet, which he read, and then held a long conversation in Sindee with Meer Mahomed, his uncle, who was with him at his shikargah. The tenor of the letters was understood by my Moonshees to be Roostum Khan's objections to the Bengal army crossing the Indus at Bukkur, and I had a message on the 29th, on this point, from Noor Mahomed Khan, which I met as I have done all others of a similar complexion.

The Moonshees are now gone to Durbar, to show Noor Mahomed Khan the letters from Mehrab Khan and his Minister to Lieutenant Leech's address, which ought to put him to shame; but such is his recklessness, that I dare say he will content himself with saying that the Nawab Ahmed Khan had no authority from him to say what he did about Lieutenant Leech.

No. 52.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, October* 29, 1838.

THE intelligence contained in your demi-official letter to the address of the private secretary to the Governor-General, is of so important a nature that the Governor-General has resolved to reply to it, without awaiting your promised official dispatch.

The Governor-General entirely approves the tenor of your two memoranda; and that of the later date contains, in the opinion of the Governor-General, a succinct, clear and dignified exposition of the duplicity of the Ameers, and of the serious grounds of displeasure their conduct has afforded to the British Government.

Whatever hesitation you may have felt, as to calling for the advance of a British force, will, his Lordship trusts, have been removed by your receipt of my letter of the 20th ultimo. The treachery of the Ameers is fully established by a variety of concurrent circumstances; of their having written a slavish ureeza to the Shah of Persia, you do not express the slightest doubt; the information you have received on that subject, is strongly corroborated by the treatment openly shewn to the self-styled Persian Prince at Hyderabad; and their insulting letter to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, coupled with the distinct announcement made to yourself and the native agent, regarding opposition to the Shah, affords conclusive proof of their design to favour our enemies.

Their assertion that they were unacquainted with the fact of our having espoused Shah Shooja's cause is too absurd to demand the slightest attention; and the Governor-General has the strongest grounds for believing that they

have been using their utmost exertions to throw every obstacle in the way of the advance both of the British army and that of the Shah.

Inclosed are copies of letters this day written, by order of his Lordship, to the Bombay Government, and to Captain Burnes. From the former document you will perceive that the Governor-General has determined to establish a British subsidiary force in Lower Sinde, at the earliest practicable moment. Waiving, for the present, every consideration of indemnity for past attempts to injure our interest, the Governor-General is clearly of opinion that such a measure is just and necessary on the principle of a regard for our future security; whether, therefore, the present Ameers are suffered to retain power, an arrangement which his Lordship would now, in the first instance, contemplate; or whether Meer Sobdar is raised to the Government under our auspices; the reception of a subsidiary force must be made a *sine qua non* of the new engagement.

It occurs to the Governor-General, that it might materially facilitate any negotiations which may eventually be called for, with Meer Sobdar, were that chief informed that we have received overtures from a descendant of the Calooree dynasty, now residing at Bickaneer. His Lordship has reason to know that the individual in question has many powerful adherents in Sinde, and it is not impossible that his pretensions may be favorably regarded by the British Government, should it be found that no member of the reigning family is disposed to accede to those arrangements which are deemed absolutely indispensable to the safety and tranquillity of our Indian possessions.

With the provision for the subsidiary force, it would be desirable to provide that the Government of Sinde should consent to act in subordinate cooperation with the British Government, and to refrain from all communication with foreign Powers.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

P.S.—Since the above was written, your dispatch of the 9th instant, with its several inclosures, has been received. The contents of this communication afford the strongest additional evidence of the duplicity and treachery of the Ameers of Sinde, and of their continued hostility of feeling towards the British Government. The insulting treatment received by yourself, the evasions practised by the Ameers in regard to facilitating the collection of supplies, and the entire absence of all open and satisfactory explanation as respects their communication with the Shah of Persia, and Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, constitute a few of the many instances which might be cited, to prove the existence of such feelings, a fact which is indeed sufficiently established by the whole tenor of your communications now acknowledged. Under these circumstances his Lordship is the more confirmed in the propriety of the resolutions above communicated; and he is clearly of opinion that no further negotiation should be entered into by you, until your authority is supported by the actual presence of British troops in the Sinde territories. It is superfluous to add that not a moment's delay should be allowed in effecting the advance of the troops now ordered from Bombay. In reply to any application to you respecting the sentiments of the Governor-General on past events, you will merely state that his Lordship has received the information conveyed by your reports, with feelings of the keenest surprise and displeasure. When the troops shall have advanced into Sinde, you may then disclose the willingness of his Lordship still to respect the authority of the Ameers Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed, conditionally on the establishment of a subsidiary force, under such additional instructions as may be conveyed to you; but it is prudent that you should not make premature allusion to that determination.

For similar motives, you will observe that Captain Burnes has been instructed to make his announcement to the Chief of Khyrpore, respecting our willingness to guarantee the independence of that territory, as strictly secret and confidential as possible.

There is only one point to which the Governor-General deems it necessary to advert in this place. With regard to the money payment proposed to be made by the Ameers of Sinde to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, you state that they have produced alleged deeds of release from the Shah. This is a pretension which cannot be satisfactorily investigated by you at Hyderabad, and it will

be proper, therefore, that you decline giving any indication of opinion on merely *ex parte* statements, and refrain from further prosecuting this part of the negotiations originally entrusted to you. The superintendence of any inquiries which may be called for upon such allegations, will better devolve upon Mr. Macnaghten, the Envoy and Minister at the Shah's Court.

No. 53.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Simla, October* 29, 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters, dated the 14th and 15th instant, together with their respective inclosures, and in reply, to acquaint you, that the Governor-General approves your proceedings as now reported.

2. His Lordship concludes that you will have put Colonel Pottinger in possession of all the information collected by Lieutenant Leech, and of the evidence on which it rests, relative to the communications held by the Ameers of Sinde with the Shah of Persia.

3. The time is now arrived, his Lordship thinks, when we may with all propriety tender to Meer Roostum Khan, a treaty guaranteeing his separate independence, and you will be pleased to enter into a negotiation with that chief accordingly. The terms should be similar to those which have been entered into by the Nawab of Bhawulpore, a Persian and English copy of which treaty is sent herewith for your information. I am, however, directed to remark that, as the military and commissary position of Khyrpore is of far greater importance than that of Bhawulpore, stipulations should be added for the temporary occupation of Roree and of Bukkur, under present circumstances, and at any future time when the peace and security of the countries on the other side of the Indus may be threatened; and the Meers should promise co-operation with the other Powers in any measures which may be thought necessary for extending or facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus.

3. A duplicate letter to the address of Colonel Pottinger is sent herewith under a flying seal. You will be pleased, after perusal, to forward it to its destination as soon as practicable.

4. I am directed to take this opportunity of forwarding, for your information, a copy of a memorandum by Colonel Pottinger, relative to money, supplies, &c., the Governor-General thinking it possible that it may not have reached you; also, a copy of a letter from Captain Wade, dated the 24th instant, together with its original inclosure. You will be pleased to forward this document to Colonel Pottinger, with your opinion as to its genuineness or otherwise.

I am, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

P.S.—Since writing the above, your dispatch of the 16th instant, with its inclosures, has been received. In reply, I am directed to refer you to the P.S. to the accompanying letter to Colonel Pottinger, and to draw your particular attention to that part of it which enjoins the utmost secrecy at present in your communications with the Khyrpore chiefs regarding the guaranteed independence of that territory.

No. 54.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *October* 31, 1838.

I TOLD you, in the concluding paragraph of the postscript to my letter of the 29th instant, that all the Ameers of this place except Sobdar Khan, had lately received letters from Meer Roostum Khan.

2. When my Moonshees went to the Durbar the day before yesterday, Noor Mahomed Khan again introduced the topic of the Bengal troops crossing the Indus at Bukkur, to which, he said, he had not been able to reconcile any of the Khyrpore Chiefs, and that he had just heard from Meer Roostum Khan, who earnestly begged him to get me to refer this point to his Lordship the Governor-General of India. The Moonshees expressed their doubts of these being Roostum Khan's real feelings, but Noor Mahomed Khan appealed to Lalla Suddanund (whom he had evidently at hand for the purpose), who swore that all, and more than the Ameer had stated was the truth.

3. I had not then seen Lalla Suddanund, and therefore disregarded his assertions, but he came to visit me yesterday, and put into my hands letters from Meers Roostum and Ali Moorad, which, I now find, desire me to consider all that he says to me to be authorized by them.

4. After entering into a prolix account of his (the Lalla's) long and important services as Vakeel at the Court of Maharaja Runjeet Sing, he said he had some messages to deliver to me, which I desired him to do. He went on to ask, in what I considered a very flippant style, what could induce his Lordship the Governor-General to revive the obsolete question of the Sinde tribute to the Kings of Cabool? He said, "It is a joke talking of it as a demand of the King; you have given him bread for the last five-and-twenty years, and any strength he has now, or may hereafter have, proceeds from you, so that the demand is literally yours."

5. You may imagine that I was greatly surprised at this impertinent communication. I had not at that moment opened the letters from Khyrpore, and I believed that the Lalla was acting under Noor Mahomed Khan's instructions. I therefore, after pointing out the extraordinary kindness of the Governor-General in thinking, as his Lordship had done, of the interests of the Sinde Ameers, told him he should have replies to the letters he had brought, and that he might defer his further communications till a subsequent day.

6. He seemed very ill disposed to go away, but I cut him short by saying that I was not then apprised of his having any authority to talk as he did, and that I had no intention of treating with him; on which he rose and took leave, promising to return some future day.

7. I am aware that this person left Khyrpore before your arrival there, for indeed he told me he had remained some days at Bukkur, in the hope of having an interview with you; but, whatever may have been Roostum Khan's sentiments on the two subjects above described, at the period of the Lalla's deputation to this place, I conceive that it was clearly his (Roostum Khan's) duty, had he been sincere, to have apprised his agent of the change in his views and ideas which had subsequently taken place, and to forbid him to lend his weight to the unfriendly and disgraceful course which the Hyderabad Durbar has adopted.

8. I return the original letters to Lieutenant Leech from Mehrab Khan and his Minister. Precisely as I anticipated, Noor Mahomed Khan denied that the Nawab Ahmed Khan was empowered by him to make any such communication, and Nusseer Khan had even the insolence to express his doubts whether he had done so. As displaying the personal disposition of the agent whom Roostum Khan has thought fit to select to be the medium of his intercourse with me here, I may, in conclusion, mention that Lalla Suddanund was present when I gave these letters to the Moonshees to carry to Noor Mahomed Khan, and took the occasion to observe, that he was surprised that I, who was so great a man, should think of such trifles, or report them to my Government. I, of course, soon silenced him by saying that I supposed he would not consider his being turned out of Lahore a trifle, and asking if the way in which he served his master, was by disguising facts from him.

9. I shall send a copy of this letter for the information of his Lordship the Governor-General of India

I have, &c.

H. POTTINGER.

No. 55.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October,* 31, 1838.

ON the 28th instant I transmitted to you a report of what had passed here up to that date, and the very favourable state of affairs.

2. I have now the further satisfaction to inform you that the reply to Noor Mahomed Khan's autograph letter was drawn out in Meer Roostum Khan's own handwriting, and, as reported to me, even of a stronger tenor than I stated.

3. The chagrin and discomfiture of Meer Moobaruck Khan, and the few friends which Noor Mahomed Khan has here, has been exhibiting itself; and Meer Moobaruck, on the night of the 29th, sent a message to the Minister, hoping that he would not have to repent of his proceedings, and the advice he had given to Meer Roostum Khan. To strengthen this message he produced a note from Noor Mahomed Khan, which had just arrived, saying that the conduct of the family at Khyrpore was very disgraceful in this crisis, and that I was misleading them.

4. Yesterday morning the Minister visited me, and with him a man from Moobaruck Khan, and as I thought it full time to put a stop to this doubting and raising of doubts, I plainly told the party, and requested the message to be conveyed to Moobaruck Khan, that we had hitherto looked upon him and his brothers as one; but the day of reckoning was close at hand, and, if he wished the British Government to regard him with one eye and his brothers with another, he must have himself to blame for the consequences, and that, though I felt it my duty to tell my Government of all their well-wishers, I had also the duty of stating who were waverers.

5. Meer Moobaruck Khan is quite overruled here at present, and there is no danger to be apprehended from Hyderabad hostility, whatever alteration takes place in our alliance. Sobdar Khan reiterates the fact in his letter here, that Noor Mahomed is a bad man, bent on injury to every one but himself, but happily without the ability, being as the Sindian proverb runs, "gahee tata, gahee masa;" in other words, without fixity of purpose.

6. I received your important dispatch of the 26th, late last night, and forwarded it immediately to Simla. In addition to Noor Mahomed Khan's unworthy proceedings, and the just grounds there are for calling him to account, I find he has been tampering with Bhawul Khan, and endeavouring to alienate that chief from us. His object appears to have been that he might injure the Khyrpore family through him, and conducted in the same spirit as he had hoped to accomplish the injury of his relatives at Hyderabad, which our Government so signally defeated.

7. With reference to the doubts which arise from the documents given by Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, it is proper to observe, that the reasons for Shikarpore being given up are obvious, since that district never belonged to Sinde, during the monarchy, and was a subsequent addition. It is also clear, from these papers, that Shikarpore and Sinde are to be held as formerly, and not interfered with, the interpretation of which evidently is, that the Ameers are not to be disturbed in the government, if they pay their tribute. Had Shooja meant anything else, he would have formally cancelled the Rukum of his father Timoor.

8. I have forwarded a copy of this letter, as I do of all my correspondence, for the information of the Governor-General.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 56.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, October* 31, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India, a copy of my letter to Colonel Pottinger, on my further proceedings here, and how I have dealt with a waverer in this family.

2. Besides the reasons urged for calling Noor Mahomed Khan to account by Colonel Pottinger, his proceedings, as set forth in the present letter, and in others formerly sent from this, will probably carry further weight with his Lordship. Bad also as was his conduct to the Resident, and utterly unpardonable as it appears to me, I am sorry to say that the reports of the hooting, stoning, &c., have been much exaggerated throughout Sinde; and consequences of a most pernicious nature will flow from impunity of the outrage.

3. I have availed myself of this opportunity to state the opinions which have occurred to me on the documents which the Ameers of Sinde possess from Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, and which are in my mind of small value.

I have, &c.,

ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 57.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

(Extract.) *November* 2, 1838.

I HAVE had the honor to receive your letter of the 28th ultimo.

2. Nothing that it contains has tended in the least degree to alter my opinion of the absence of sincerity in the Chiefs of Khyrpore.

3. You appear to have overlooked that your first interview with them took place after they had heard of the return of the Shah of Persia to his own dominions, and, had I arrived at Hyderabad at the same period, I should have had only to laud the friendly declarations and congratulatory messages which have been since heaped on me.

4. The Ameers of this place talk not only of preparing presents, but of going themselves in person to meet the army, and even they have had the consideration and tact to drop the discussion regarding the payment of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, pending the reference which they know I have made to his Lordship the Governor-General.

5. I am quite at a loss to understand what the Khyrpore Chiefs mean when they speak of their "devotion to us under recent trial," and still more puzzled by their declaration, that "since from 1831 to this hour they had been equally submissive to our will, and had incurred thereby odium at Hyderabad."

Since I have been here, Meer Roostum Khan has allowed a most insolent and threatening letter, addressed to him by that low Beloochee, Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, to be sent here for the purpose of being used in intimidating and insulting me. He (Roostum Khan) has written, as well as his relations, the most slavish and obsequious assurances that the Persian language can express, of their readiness to be guided by Noor Mahomed Khan's orders with regard to us, and he (Roostum Khan) has deputed a person to support and comfort this Government in its heartless and shameless conduct towards the British Resident, and who does not seem to have even the sense to desist from ripping up matters to which the inveterate party tacitly submitted.

7. You will have observed from a paragraph of my dispatch of the25th ultimo, to Mr. Macnaghten, that Noor Mahomed Khan takes an equally strong interest as Meer Roostum seems to do in the fortunes of Dost Mahomed Khan, and that he even went so far as to pledge himself that if I would send an officer to Cabool, that chief would submit himself to the Governor-General's pleasure. Noor Mahomed Khan's organ of communication, Syud Tukkee Shah, further said, that you, having first promised to restore Peshawur to Dost Mahomed, and afterwards retracting that promise, was the real cause of his defection from us,

and adhesion to Persia; and if that story is believed by the Sindees, you will perceive that it is a very sufficient reason why they should quote our treatment of him as exciting their own apprehension.

8. To conclude, I can only repeat my intention to revise our Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, when I shall obtain satisfactory and unequivocal proofs of his having acted up to his professions, but not till then.

9. I shall send a copy of this letter for the information of his Lordship the Governor-General of India.

No. 58.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *November* 2, 1838.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India, a copy of my letter of this date to Captain Burnes.

I presume that that officer will have submitted transcripts of the various communications he has addressed to me since he arrived at Khyrpore, as well as of the Draft of the proposed Treaty with the Chiefs of that place, and I have to express my concern, that he should have entered into engagements, and recorded opinions from which I have felt obliged to so entirely dissent.

In closing this letter I may respectfully observe, that two courses strike me as being now open to his Lordship,—the one, to order me to return to Cutch, and to declare all friendly relations with Noor Mahomed Khan to have ceased; the other, to direct certain demands, such as his Lordship shall see fit, to be made on the Hyderabad Government, with an intimation that if they are not complied with, we shall enforce them. In either case, it happens unfortunately, that our well-wishers or friends (if there be any such amongst the Ameers) would be put to extreme inconvenience and trouble, and even perhaps forced to make, for a time, a show of joining against us, in the event of hostilities; but it would of course be my study to alleviate these evils as much as possible, and to befriend those who were well-disposed to us. Perhaps the best demand that could be made, with reference to our future supremacy in this country, would be for a cession, say Kurachee, or tribute, to cover, in part, the expense of a body of troops. But the anomalous nature of the Government, and the fact of the revenue being frittered away amongst so many sharers, and again divided amongst so many dependents of those sharers, who have no other means of support, and would be driven to subsist by rapine and anarchy (if discarded), render every plan that can be devised, liable to almost insurmountable objections. One point, I hope, however, will be insisted upon from all parties, namely, the free and unlimited use of the Indus for merchants, and the total abolition of every description of toll between Roopur and the Sea.

No. 59.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

(Extract.) *Simla, November* 3, 1838.

I AM directed by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your two letters dated the 19th ultimo, and one of the 21st ditto, with their respective inclosures, and the letter from Colonel Pottinger of the 10th which accompanied.

2. The information contained in those documents confirmatory of the rumoured retreat of the Persians from before Herat, and the favourable temper of the Khyrpore Chief, is highly gratifying to the Governor-General. Having recently favoured you with detailed instructions for your guidance, his Lordship has little to add on the present occasion.

3. He is of opinion, however, that it is in the highest degree desirable to obtain the most accurate information of the nature of the communications held by the Ameers of Sinde with the King of Persia, and his Lordship is of opinion, that the Khyrpore Durbar might, if judiciously applied to, furnish very conclusive evidence on this point.

4. His Lordship is further of opinion that, under all the circumstances of the case, and the duplicity and treachery of the principal Ameers, we should be perfectly warranted in endeavouring to extract from Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, the letter with which he has been entrusted.

No. 60.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Khyrpore, November* 3, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th-30th ultimo. conveying your sentiments on the affairs of Khyrpore, which reached me late last night.

2. In the 6th paragraph of your letter, you have set forth what you consider to be the Governor-General's intentions towards this State, and in them I wholly concur. I distinctly stated, in sending you the papers which I did, that I had refrained from agitating what I could not conclude, and that I wanted your sentiments on the kind of treaty to be given, or powers from you to conclude one.

3. The Postscript of your letter dated the 30th, supersedes, however, any necessity for taking up time in explanation, as the fact of Roostum Khan's shewing Noor Mahomed Khan's confidential letter to me, carries with it, I am glad to see, its just weight, and I have subsequently informed you that the Ameer replied in his own handwriting. I question, however, if a communication so unpalatable will be immediately made known at Hyderabad.

4. With reference to your observations on Meer Roostum Khan's first letter to Noor Mahomed, that communication seems to me both judicious and wise, for he dwells upon the power of the British, as being a *telling* argument, increased, as he no doubt believed it, by saying that we and the Sikhs were one.* He thus sought to rouse his fears, which, excepting interest, are the most powerful spring to action in the human mind. No inference is to be drawn from the style of address, for Meer Mahomed Khan is equally respectful to Meer Roostum, though an European would act as you point out in your 8th paragraph. I hold the proceedings of this Chief tantamount thereto, such being the difference in the modes of acting between Asiatics and Europeans.

5. As to Noor Mahomed Khan's message about this chief's objections to the Bengal Army passing at Bukkur, the Minister did speak of such a wish when I first reached Roree, which I treated with complete indifference, adding that the army would cross at the most convenient point. I have since sent Lieutenant Leech to reconnoitre the neighbourhood of Bukkur, and he reports that the river could be best bridged through the Fort; but I find, on minute inquiries, that if I suggest that the Bengal Army should come to Bukkur at all, I shall bring them about fifty miles out of the road to Shikarpore. Their most direct route is by Gotkee, and after I have seen the river there and the roads from it to Shikarpore, I shall be able to say whether the army crosses at Gothee or Bukkur. There is only one hint which reached me about their wishing us to avoid the route of Roree; that Khyrpore was close to it, and the Ameers here had

* Sic in orig.

no protection for their families as at Hyderabad. To this delicate observation I replied that there was no fear on that account, and that the army would cross at the most convenient place. Had I had any thing precise from you to have offered these people, I would have asked for Bukkur itself, immediately I heard of the siege of Herat being raised.

6. I am sorry to say that I foresee very great difficulties in satisfying these people, if I can convey nothing further to them than what is stated in the 9th paragraph of your letter, if the interpretations which I place on the Postscript did not give me every hope that a draft of a treaty is now on its way here. I shall deliver your letter to the chief, and when called upon for verbal communication of your sentiments, I shall at once place before Roostum Khan the basis on which you are ready to treat, telling him that the terms there stated are vouchsafed on account of the high degree of confidence shewn by him in making known what came from Hyderabad, and his coupling with it the declaration of having consigned himself to us.

7. It is quite evident that these people have compromised themselves with their relatives at Hyderabad, and I much fear that this procrastination will be keenly felt, and that I may now have to change the language of reconciliation and hope into threats, which must produce heartburnings and vexations.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 61.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, November* 3, 1838.

IN forwarding to you the accompanying dispatch from Colonel Pottinger, setting forth his views on the affairs of Khyrpore, I have the honor to transmit a copy of my reply to the Resident, of this day's date, on the same subject.

2. The Postscript to Colonel Pottinger's letter gives me every hope that matters will still go on rightly here; but if we are not prepared to meet the people halfway, I do not see how we can expect any cordiality in return.

3. The very fact of this chief exhibiting a secret and confidential letter was proof of his reliance on us, which entitles him to our good offices—at a time too when he could not have known but that affairs might have terminated unfavourably at Hyderabad.

4. I have no wish to give countenance to a belief that these people seek us from love and affection: it is from interest; and Meer Roostum Khan, to his benevolent disposition, has fortunately got sense to attend to those who counsel him in submitting himself to us. At Hyderabad fear will gain our ends, at Khyrpore interest will, and Sinde may thus be laid prostrate at the mercy of the British Government.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 62.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Sukkur, November* 6, 1838.

THE absence of Meer Roostum Khan prevented my communicating with him but by note, and through his Minister, since I got your letter of the 30th —31st ultimo. I have seen his Highness this morning, and explained the terms on which you would enter into a new treaty with him, but I also made known the proceedings of his vakeel at Hyderabad.

2. The Ameer expressed great astonishment at the vakeel's conduct, saying

it was wholly unauthorized, and got up by Noor Mahomed to injure him in your eyes, which he felt very severely at this time ; that he would instantly send off an express to you to put you on your guard against such unworthy proceedings.

3. With reference to the Treaty, his Highness bids me fervently urge it upon you. I find from his Minister, that he wishes to consider himself in allegiance to the British Government; but he hopes you will convert the word into friendly submission. I find also that while his Highness agrees for ever to renounce political connexion with Hyderabad, it would be very satisfactory to have it most precisely stated, that the going and coming of relatives be not misconstrued into such connexion.

4. I however told the Minister, that all hopes of a treaty of any kind must end, if you could not be satisfied as to the Ameer's sincerity, which he declared, in the name of his master and himself, was easily done ; but on which, from the bad feelings evident at Hyderabad against this family, the Ameer's apprehensions were great ; but he relied on your impartiality for an early and favourable reply.

5. As I close this, the Ameer has sent to me a draft of a letter to you, of which I make a translation ; and if the letter itself arrives in time, it will accompany this.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 63.

Meer Roostum Khan to the Resident in Sinde.

Khyrpore, November 6, 1838.

I AM exceedingly astonished at hearing from Captain Burnes, that Assanund has delivered some messages on my part to you, which made you displeased.

I sent the said Lalla Assanund, before the arrival of Captain Burnes at Khyrpore, merely to welcome you, and ask for your health and welfare : I entrusted to him no other message. Perhaps after Captain Burnes's arrival here, he has delivered to you these messages by the inducements of some enemies, which I hope you will never believe or place reliance upon, and bear nothing in your mind but friendship.

You might have learned, and will learn hereafter, my good feelings and friendship from Captain Burnes's writings. I have a boundless desire of meeting you. In the world of friendship, the reception of letters is the cause of rejoicing ; therefore I hope you will always write while absent.

No. 64.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, November* 6, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to annex, for the information of the Governor-General of India, copies of my letters to Colonel Pottinger, of this date.

2. Under existing circumstances, I trust it will be felt, that I have taken the most judicious course, by refraining from any allusion to Bukkur, or saying more on any other subject, while the Resident continues to consider this family involved in the guilt of their relatives at Hyderabad.

No. 65.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Buddee, November* 8, 1838.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch with inclosures, dated the 25th ultimo.

2. The measures taken by you with reference to the wishes of the Khyrpore Ameer, for an alliance with this Government, are, I am desired to state, judicious and expedient; but the communication addressed by me to you, subsequently to them, will have put you in possession of the exact nature of the treaty, whereby it is proposed that the alliance should be formally concluded.

3. As respects Bukkur, it would be required by this Government as a depôt for treasure and ammunition only during the war, and it will be advisable that this fact should be carefully impressed upon the Meers, when reference is made to the question of our occupancy of it.

4. It seems, perhaps, but just that Meer Roostum Khan should be called upon to pay a quota of the contribution to be furnished by Sinde, as the price of his guaranteed independence and exemption from all further demands on the part of Shah Shooja, but he should not be called to contribute any sum whatever for the maintenance of the subsidiary force, which it may ultimately be resolved to establish in the territory of the Ameers.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 66.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 8, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to make known to you the following intelligence which has reached me:—

A letter has passed Shikarpore to Hyderabad from Dost Mahomed Khan, who tells the Ameers to be aware of us; that it is we (the British) who are advancing behind Shah Shooja as a screen; and that if the Shah treated them so badly last time, what was to be expected at his hands when advanced by the English; that if the Ameers wished, he would send one of his own sons to Hyderabad to assure the Ameers how much he considered their interests his own, and that he (Dost Mahomed) did not require that they should be at any expense on his son's account.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES

No. 67.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sinde Residency, November* 9, 1838.

SINCE I had the honor to address my letter to you on the 2nd instant, every thing went on most quietly at this capital until the day before yesterday.

2. The whole of the Ameers left Hyderabad for their respective shikargahs on the 2nd instant, and sent me word they intended to be absent a week.

3. I understood that Noor Mahomed Khan had carried with him Meerza Khoosroo and all that party, who were known to have been the chief instigators of the Persian alliance, and it occurred to me that his object might be to con-

sult at his leisure with them as to the best means of getting back his original ureeza to Mahomed Shah.

4. On the afternoon of the 6th instant, Noor Mahomed returned rather unexpectedly, and next morning he sent for the native agent (who had previously ascertained that letters from Khyrpore had reached his Highness at his shikargah), whom he asked if I was aware of Captain Burnes' proceeding, observing that I was bound to carry any objects we might have at Khyrpore through his (Noor Mahomed's) means, and that he trusted to me to do so, by which I should oblige him, and he have it in his power to confer an obligation on Meer Roostum Khan and his family.

5. His Highness said, that amongst other arrangements he understood that Captain Burnes had agreed that the Bengal troops should cross the Indus at a place called Ghotkee, ten coss beyond Bukkur; that that officer had also agreed to form an independent treaty with Khyrpore; that some of the principal chiefs of the great tribes of Nizamanee and Lugharee, had declared they would not tolerate a division of the interests of the Talpoors; that Meer Moobaruck had written to all the Ameers here, that he looked to them to support his rights, and that he would keep them informed of all that passed in that quarter.

6. I desired the Moonshees to go to the Durbar in the evening with a distinct reply, that I knew nothing of any change of the point at which the Bengal army was to cross the Indus, nor did I give credit to the report; that I was ready to ratify an independent treaty on certain terms with Meer Roostum Khan, and that, after his (Noor Mahomed Khan's) conduct to me, it was utterly out of the question my making him the medium of any new arrangements with the Chief of Khyrpore.

7. This message led to an immensely long discussion, the details of which would fill several sheets of paper. Noor Mahomed Khan talked at first of his devoted friendship, and said, that he had ruined himself with his relations and chiefs to meet our wishes. I expected this, and had given the Moonshees minute orders how to refute it, by quoting a variety of the most prominent instances of his almost open enmity, which had only ceased when the news of the retreat of the King of Persia from Herat reached this place, and concluding by the remark that, had the case been reversed, and Herat fallen to the Persians, I was quite certain, I should at that moment have been on my way back to Cutch.

8. The Ameer, with his wonted absence of shame and truth, swore by the Almighty and the Sacred Koran, that he was ignorant of every one of the instances of unfriendliness which were pointed out. He sent for his son Meer Shadad, and abused him before the Moonshees in the most unqualified manner, calling him a bastard, and saying, he had doubtless acted in this matter by the tuition of his uncle Meer Sobdar, whose object was to ruin him (Noor Mahomed). He was equally direct, and plain-spoken, with regard to the communications made to me on the 17th ultimo, by the Nawab Ahmed Khan, to whom he applied the most scurrilous epithets, and said he would confront him with me the next day, and make him eat his own dirty words.

9. After this characteristic and disgraceful ebullition (to which the Moonshees replied as was becoming and proper), he asked how all this misunderstanding was to be rectified; accused me of a want of confidence in his friendship, and said that he would now put mine to the test by requiring from me a treaty dated that day, declaring that the same friendly relations were in full force between us, which had existed between the late Moorad Ali Khan and the British Government. He desired the Moonshees to inform me that this was his wish, and to return that night with my reply; but, as it was then after seven o'clock, they told him they could not possibly do so.

10. I sent the Moonshee yesterday morning to say, that the Nawab Ahmed Khan had been sent to me on the 17th ultimo, with an intimation from his Highness' own mouth, through the native agent, that he (the Nawab) was his own eyes, and that I had at the outset of Meer Shadad's communications, distinctly announced that I should look on them as coming from Noor Mahomed Khan himself; that the one was his Minister, and the other his son; and that their denial now of what they had said, could not weigh with me; that, with regard to granting any new treaty, or even a promise, it was utterly and

totally out of the question, and that his Highness had himself alone to thank for the predicament in which he was situated.

11. This message led to a repetition of the scene of the preceding day, but it is needless to trespass on the time of his Lordship the Governor-General of India by recording what passed; Meer Shadad had just before sent for my Moonshees, and I thought it right to desire them to ask Noor Mahomed Khan's leave to obey the summons. He peremptorily ordered them not to go near Shadad; said he was no son of his; that he looked to his younger children as his successors; and that he never again would allow the former to enter into his presence. He went on to observe, that as I saw such objections to giving a new agreement to the purport he had spoken of, he would immediately send the perpetual Treaty of 1831-2, and that providing for a British Resident, by Meerza Khoosroo, and others who would give them into my hands, in order that I might restore them, and thereby renew these stipulations from that moment.

12. This deputation did not come, however, and Meerza Khoosroo wrote in the evening to say he was detained by business. Early this morning the native agent had an autograph note from Noor Mahomed Khan, desiring him to obtain an answer from me to his proposal of yesterday, and to wait on him as soon as possible. I have just sent the Moonshee (4 P.M.) to the Durbar to reiterate all my former remarks; to say I will pledge myself to nothing; that the commands of the Governor-General must be obeyed; and that if his Highness sends back the Treaties I shall understand that he means me to keep them.

13. The first day these angry discussions were renewed, the men belonging to the boats which I have entertained, were told by the people of the jumptee (state barge) in which Noor Mahomed Khan returned from his shikargah, that they would hereafter be called to account for taking employment under us. I treated the business as a piece of envy on the part of the people of the jumptee, but I should not be greatly surprised if the boatmen all left us, should further threats be used towards them, for I have no means of protecting them, and sending any message to Noor Mahomed Khan would only make matters worse.

14. I have again written to Meer Roostum Khan, to tell him that I will give him such a treaty as he and his family can wish; and told him, in the mean time, to be under no apprehension, and to act up to his professions of devotion and friendship to the British Government.

No. 68.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 11, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that an express messenger reached this morning from Khyrpore, sent to the Minister's son, who is in attendance upon us here, with the following communication, from Meer Roostum Khan to myself.

2. "That the Ameer had received a letter from Noor Mahomed Khan, intimating that he had sent Jan Khan, a blood relative, to Khyrpore, and entreated the Khyrpore family to be guided by Hyderabad: that so much of the communication was written, but that a verbal message was sent from Hyderabad that the whole Beloochee chiefs were determined to assemble and war against the English, rather than submit to give a road to them; in which Noor Mahomed Khan and all the Ameers concurred."

3. To the written part Meer Roostum had replied, as his messenger was requested to inform me, that he would be no party to such proceedings. His Highness begged again to assure me that he was firm in adhering to us, and had done with youths who exhibited so much folly, and would so inform Jan Khan.

4. I requested the Minister's son to send off a messenger to Khyrpore, to assure the Ameer how much gratified I was at his steady good feeling, which would soon be rewarded; and I could only tell him that, if a shot was fired in

the country against the English, Sinde would become a province of British India.

5. I send you a copy of the Governor-General's declaration, which may not have reached you, and to which I am desired to give every currency.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 69.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *uhikarpore, November* 11, 1838.

I DO myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, and along with it the important express to Colonel Pottinger on the affairs of Sinde, which I immediately sent on, and which will reach him on the 17th instant.

2. My last communications will show you how much the arrival of the Governor-General's resolutions with regard to the Khyrpore Chief were necessary.

3. I shall observe the strictest secrecy of our ultimate intentions in public, but I have imparted to the Minister's son with me, that I have full powers now to conclude a treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, on account of his continued friendly disposition towards us, and that I will enter on negotiations with his Highness at an early period, and the moment I see that it will not be injurious to himself. I have also requested him to go to Khyrpore, and make this known to the Ameer, and to state that his Lordship has drawn very favourable inference from his good conduct.

4. I append a copy of my last letter to Colonel Pottinger, and his Lordship will see that the same misguided spirit yet directs the counsels of the Hyderabad Ameers. Nothing on the records of Indian history will be more justified than our bringing these men to reason, in the manner set forth in your express, which has just passed through for Colonel Pottinger.

5. I shall hand on the Persian document to Colonel Pottinger, and my concurrence with Major Todd, that it is a forgery. I found my opinion on the seal and style; and as Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan has been lately at Kelat, it is not improbable that it is an invention of that impostor.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 70.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *November* 12, 1838.

I HAD the honor to report my proceedings up to the afternoon of the 9th instant in my letter of that date.

2. The Moonshees had a long and somewhat angry conference that evening with Noor Mahomed Khan, at which, beside themselves, were present*. They began by trying what effect intimidation would have. The Meerza said I was making pretences to break the treaty, that Noor Mahomed Khan must take his measures accordingly, with a good deal more of the same kind of talk: he also observed, "his Highness has given your armies a road through his country. What more is needed to prove his friendship?"

3. The Moonshees went over the old ground, recapitulating a variety of instances in which Noor Mahomed Khan had evinced his want of cordiality, and added that, with respect to giving our troops a road, it was only what their Highnesses Bhawul Khan and Mehrab Khan had done. The Ameer interrupted them by remarking, "The latter has not yet consented; suppose he refuses?" To this the Moonshees replied, "Two regiments would settle that question; but Mehrab Khan is a wise ruler, and knows his interest too well to

* Sic in orig.

quarrel with the British Government." Noor Mahomed Khan then burst out into his former invectives against his son and minister, who had plunged him in these troubles; declared he was devoted to us and our interests; that whatever I chose to require of him he would fulfil; and, finally, that he would send nobody to me until I intimated to him that all was settled.

4. The 10th and 11th passed without my receiving any communications; but late last night Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans sent me a present of apples; and the former summoned the native agent early this morning, and desired him to inform me that Syud Ismael Shah would wait on me about 1 o'clock, and that he depended on my long-tried friendship to receive the communications of which he would be the bearer with an indulgent ear. His Highness further added, that I now had his full permission to build the Residency, in any form or to any extent I chose, on the ground I had at first selected, and that if the Nawab Ahmed Khan objected, on account of its alleged proximity to his tanda or dwelling, he might move off and go to the devil.

5. Ismael Shah, accompanied by two of his sons and nephew, came just as breakfast was over, and our discussions, at which all the gentlemen of the Residency and both my Moonshees were present, lasted two hours. I do not think they brought forward a single new argument; and it would therefore be a useless tax on the Governor-General of India, to attempt to enter into details. They used the old plea of being in ignorance of everything that was passing until I had arrived; affirmed that had Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk stated in his letter to them, that the British Government were about to assist him, they would have instantly assented to his request for a passage through Sinde; that the letter (ureeza) to Mahomed Shah was a mere complimentary one; that they had not even sent one of condolence on the death of the Shah's father; and that, had they known it would have been disagreeable to the Governor-General of India, they would never have dreamt of such a step as addressing the Shah.

6. I had no difficulty in exposing the falsity of all this, by reminding the deputation of the verbal declarations made by Noor Mahomed Khan to the native agent, and I did so in the most direct terms; I observed, that there were expressions in the ureeza, which, coupled with Noor Mahomed Khan's subsequent conduct, could leave no doubt but his enmity pointed at us; that he had, about the same time, voluntarily opened a correspondence with the Rajah of Joudpore; that the Governor-General of India, in the full confidence which his Lordship then felt of the friendship of the Hyderabad Government, had ordered me to lay before the Ameers the most secret and important objects; that his Lordship had further taken care of the interests of their Highnesses in the treaty, in a manner they could not have done themselves, had they been on the spot; that I had personally, for a long series of years, shewn my feelings in giving effect to the Governor-General's wishes to uphold the paramouncy of Noor Mahomed Khan as the head of the country; that I was even now ready, as an individual, to forget the poor return I had met with since I last came to Hyderabad, but that, as his Lordship's representative, the question was different, and must be decided by the commands with which I might be honored.

7. The preceding paragraph is a mere outline of my discourse; and when I had finished speaking, the deputation produced a memorandum of perhaps from twelve to twenty items, which they asked leave to read. It contained a prolix enumeration of the various instances in which Noor Mahomed Khan had acceded to our demands; and, by way of making the most of them, each item only referred to one point. Thus, there was one for allowing us a road through Sinde, a second for permitting us to hire boats, a third for the same sanction about camels, a fourth alluded to the leave granted to buy grain, and so on. As the reading of the memorandum progressed, I flatly contradicted many of the assertions made in it, and repeated my former observations in such clear and explicit terms, that the party frequently hung down their heads, and looked at each other like fools. I said, that, had the Ameer met us half-way, we should have been obliged to him, and felt sure of his friendship; that had the road not been given, we should have taken it; that the empire of Hindoostan was a gem of too great value to be trifled with; that the Governor-General was prepared at one moment, had it been necessary, in support of our rights and honor, to go to war with Persia, Affghanistan, Nepal, and Burmah; that had Herat fallen, we should only have had the trouble of retaking it; that I

could not possibly guess what part of the communications made to me on the 17th ultimo by the Nawab Ahmed Khan was authorized, and what not; that it was an undeniable fact that, at the same instant the Nawab was insinuating to me in my tent that I was in personal danger from the violence and outrages of the Beloochee chiefs, Noor Mahomed Khan's eldest son, Meer Shadad, was using the same language precisely to my Moonshee in his father's palace; that I had treated the insinuations with the utter contempt they deserved; that my Government had hundreds of servants better than myself to take my place; but that the warnings were disgraceful to Noor Mahomed Khan, as a ruler, when applied to an ambassador at his court, and equally so as a man, when directed to an individual like myself, for whom his Highness had always been pleased to express the warmest friendship and regard.

8. The truth of these remarks, and especially the concluding part, was most fully admitted by the deputation, who seemed to be left for a time without one word to say. At last Ismael Shah (whose son Zynoolabdeen had been the principal spokesman, and who also read the memorandum) observed, that Noor Mahomed Khan fully saw all his errors; that he was anxious to repair them in any way I would point out; that I was the physician, and must prescribe the necessary medicine to effect a cure; that I had said that I was personally ready to forget all that had passed, and that, in token of this feeling, he (Ismael Shah) hoped I would, for Noor Mahomed's satisfaction, write that I was satisfied on the memorandum, and sign it. To this I replied, "God forbid that I should so far forget myself. If you choose to give me a copy of it, I will submit it to the Governor-General; but as for agreeing to its contents, you have already had my reply."

9. Shortly after, the deputation took leave, promising to send a copy of the memorandum; and if they do so, I shall inclose it, with a translation, in this letter. After they had gone some distance on their way to the city, Ismael Shah desired one of his sons to return, and say he had forgotten to mention that Noor Mahomed Khan begged me to fix on any site I liked for the Residency, and to set about building it at once.

10. It is hard to say what effect my conference with the deputation will have on Noor Mahomed Khan's mind. Notwithstanding the abortive attempt to justify his behaviour (or rather to disprove my allegations) shewn in the memorandum, I think it is clear he is now trying what he can do by humbling himself. To believe that there is any sincerity in his professions would be absurd; and I repeated to the deputation this morning my firm belief, that had Herat fallen, I should have had to quit this country, which they of course most strenuously denied. His fears will now, I think, keep him in the right path; but on them alone can we calculate for doing so, and were he a single ruler at the head of this country, I should unhesitatingly recommend our setting him aside; as it is, I see so much difficulty (I might perhaps say impossibility) in remodelling this Government, without crushing the innocent and neutral in common with the guilty and inimical, that I can (after the maturest consideration) offer no better suggestion than I did in the 6th paragraph of my letter of the 2d instant, namely, to keep a body of our troops always in this province, and oblige the Ameers to pay a part of the expense.

I have, &c.
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 71.

Substance of the Memorandum brought by Syud Ismael Shah. (Vide 7th paragraph of the preceding Dispatch.)

NOTWITHSTANDING the former treaties to the contrary, I have given the British troops a passage through Sinde.

2. I have allowed boats to be hired.

3. I have allowed grain to be bought, and issued orders on this point to my officers.

4. I have, contrary to the stipulations of former treaties, admitted a British

Resident, to please the Governor and that friend, also for the benefit of my own country.

5. You applied for a site for the Residency; I offered to get it ready wherever you chose to point out, and said you might do so yourself; but it must not be near the tanda of Ahmed Khan.

6. You are constantly alluding to the letter I gave to Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan; I did so in the month of Seth (June), during the hot weather, when I knew nothing of the differences between the British Government and Mahomed Shah. English Ambassadors were always in Persia, and my ancestors were on friendly terms with Futteh Ali Shah; but to please the British Government, I neither sent letters of condolence on the former Shah's death, nor of congratulation on Mahomed Shah's accession.

7. You allude to the letter I wrote to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; you have seen the Shah's letter to me, and my answer. Had His Majesty written that he was coming with the assistance of the British Government, I never should have sent him such a reply; you also did not apprise me of that fact: even in the state of ignorance in which I was, I said the Shah's going to Khorassan was difficult; all your cavilling on this point is vain.

8. I have asked the Nawab about what he said to you regarding Mr. Leech's being turned out of Kelat. His answer is, it was not an authorized message but told you as a piece of news which he had heard. Why, therefore, take offence at it?

9. Many distinguished officers of the British Government have come to Sinde, but none of my children have ever been sent to compliment them. I lately deputed Meer Shadad to you as a proof of my consideration for the Governor-General, as well as regard for an old friend like you, likewise to apologize for certain persons having thrown stones at your servants—why, therefore, allude to this matter?

10. You should believe or attend to what I say to you, or to messages I may send by proper persons, not to what is told you by interested or foolish persons; for instance, what was said by Shadad Khan, who is a youth, and has nothing to say to affairs of state, ought not to have been believed by you.

11. You say that I wrote to you, that if Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk came towards Shikarpore I was to oppose him. I repeat, I knew nothing of his coming with the aid of the British Government, either from the Shah himself or others, until your arrival at Hyderabad, and since then I have started no objections.

12. Your Moonshees have asserted that I have only come forward to show friendship since I heard of the retreat of Mahomed Shah. When you came here, Mahomed Shah was still at Herat; but I agreed to all you requested. Had I had any secret connexion with the Shah, I would have avoided all this. God forbid that I should have had any other feeling, and I beg you will not repeat this assertion again.

13. Your Moonshees have repeatedly told me that I had shown no sort of friendship for the British Government. This is most astonishing, for I have omitted no proof of my devotion. I have even agreed to many points that were not in the former treaties, out of regard to the dictates of friendship and dependency on the word of that personage, which is like letters engraved in stone; this I have done, even to the extent of allowing the British army to pass within a coss of Hyderabad, although such a concession is at variance with all custom and the proper safety of the country. It is written in all the treaties, that the alliance between the States shall continue from generation to generation. I am most anxious to preserve the friendship of the British Government, you are able to judge. How then can we be assured (when you assert what you have done)?

14. If you wish for friendship, do not bring forward these cavils and stories. Keep the alliance fully in your view.

No. 72.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 17, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, and of your packet of the 9th to the address of the Political Secretary to Government at Bombay, which you were so obliging as to leave open for my perusal.

2. Your first communication apprised me that a letter had passed through Shikarpore, from Dost Mahomed Khan of Cabool, to the Ameers of this place, warning them against us, saying that we were making a cloak of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk to advance our own designs, and offering to send his (Dost Mahomed's) son to Hyderabad.

3. I have ascertained, from a source which cannot be mistaken, that neither the above letter nor those from the Chiefs of Kandahar (referred to in your dispatch to Mr. Willoughby), had reached Noor Mahomed Khan up to last night; and I have been promised that the instant they do so, I shall be made acquainted with the fact. From the period, however, that has elapsed, I am disposed to think that, so far as the letters extend, the information must be incorrect.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 73.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *November* 17, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, informing me of a communication which you had had from Meer Roostum Khan, to the effect "that the Ameer had received a letter from Noor Mahomed Khan, intimating that he had sent Jan Khan, a blood relation, to Khyrpore, and entreated the Khyrpore family to be guided by Hyderabad;" also adding, that a verbal message had been sent from Hyderabad, that all the Ameers and Beloochee chiefs were determined to oppose the march of our troops through Sinde.

2. I beg to offer you my best acknowledgments for sending me this intelligence.

3. I had, some days ago, heard of the deputation of Jan Khan, and my Moonshee had seen the draft of the letter with which he is furnished, and that, I am told, simply desires Meer Roostum Khan and his relations to give full confidence to all he says.

4. With regard to the verbal message, I have no doubt that Noor Mahomed Khan has thought of such a thing, but I do not believe he has nerve to carry it through. Since the date of my letter of the 12th, of which I now forward the duplicate, I have had another deputation, to whom I spoke, if possible, more plainly and unequivocally than even to the first one; and yesterday, when I sent the native agent to inform Noor Mahomed Khan that I was about to dispatch Lieutenant Eastwick to Vikkur to receive the force, I took the occasion to add, that I could not myself quit Hyderabad (as I had proposed) until I should receive instructions from the Governor-General of India, but that it was highly necessary some one should go, as it appeared, from my last official letters from Bombay, that the Governor in Council were in doubt, from the tenor of my dispatches, whether the troops would have to land in Sinde with, or without, the consent of the Hyderabad Government.

5. Noor Mahomed Khan appeared to my Moonshees to be a good deal astounded at this intimation. He, however, was all humility; professed his readiness to do whatever I wished; said he would order a jumptee to convey Lieutenant Eastwick to Vikkur, and which could bring the Commander-in-

chief up the river; and finished the conference by giving the Moonshee a written memorandum of two articles, in the first of which he begs me to point out how proper respect can be paid to his Excellency on his arrival and progress through the country; and, in the second, distinctly says that he submits the question of the payment to be made to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, to the justice and friendship of his Lordship the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 74.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 17, 1838.

IN forwarding to you Colonel Pottinger's dispatch of the 9th instant, I do myself the honor to annex the copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to the Chief of Khyrpore.

2. As the Resident has distinctly apprised Noor Mahomed Khan that he was ready to ratify an independent treaty with this chief, I have been fortunately released from all delicacy in plainly writing so to him.

3. Since it is evident that some of the anxieties which Colonel Pottinger has experienced at Hyderabad, originate from the ill will of Meer Moobaruck Khan, and I entirely concur with the Resident that he is a person not well affected to us; it will be necessary to look upon him in a light different from Meer Roostum Khan, but as this might open disagreeable subjects at an unseasonable time, I shall hear of the landing of the Bombay army in Sinde, before I say any thing further on the treaty, or the terms of it.

4. Though Colonel Pottinger's last letter to Meer Roostum is not in reply to the one transmitted by me from Sukkur, a draft of which accompanied my letter of the 6th instant, it ought, I think, to be most satisfactory to the Ameer, and will, I believe, now give him every confidence that we are to deal well by him.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 75.

Sir A. Burnes to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

Shikarpore, November 17, 1838.

I HAD the pleasure of receiving your letter from the hands of your confidential agent, the respectable Kumal Khan; and its contents, as well as the messages which he delivered, made me happy.

I was greatly pleased to hear last night from Colonel Pottinger at Hyderabad, that he had written to your Highness, saying that he would give you such a treaty as you and your family could wish.

Four days ago I had the satisfaction of sending to you, through Khyer Mahomed Khan Ghoree and Durya Khan Jellanee, certain messages which will also have reached you. Make no doubt, my good friend, after all this, that the Governor-General will form a new treaty with you. His Lordship has been pleased to confer upon me powers to treat with you, but the respectable Kumal Khan will explain all things to you.

It is only necessary that your Highness act up to your professions of friendship and devotion to the British Government, to be considered its very peculiar friend, and to be distinguished by its every mark of favour.

I told your Highness before leaving, that I would examine the ferries across the Indus before fixing the route of the army. One of my servants has gone to see the road from Ghotkee, but though that is the most direct route, the jungle is so thick that I could not advise the army to pass there. I find Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk crossed his army at Azeezpoor, near Gati Amil, and

with your Highness's permission, I will collect boats there, as it is a very convenient ferry.

I have to thank your Highness for all your ready attention to all my wishes, since I entered your country, which the Governor-General will regard as the best proof of your friendship. I now wish to prepare the road from the ferry at Azeezpoor to Subzul, and hope your Highness will give the necessary orders to your officers to do it. If the roads were made under your Highness's direction, it would show to the people of the country, what is already known to the people of the town, that the Governments are one.

I wish to return to Khyrpore and see you, and please God the time is not far distant. Meanwhile let me hear of your welfare.

No. 76.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 18, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India, the translation of a letter and its inclosure, which I received last night from Noor Mahomed Khan.

2. The dilemma in which his Highness has now placed himself, readily accounts for the civility of the document, but the Ameer will be foiled in endeavouring to open a communication with me, as I have sent a copy of this letter to Colonel Pottinger, and shall answer it, if I ever do so, through him. When the confidential agent also makes his appearance, I shall not disguise my opinions of his master's conduct towards the British Government.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 77.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan Talpoor to Sir A. Burnes.

I WAS very much pleased to receive your friendly letter, with its valuable inclosure from the Governor-General of India, and they were delivered to me by the respectable Colonel Pottinger.

I was greatly rejoiced to hear that you had safely arrived at Bukkur, and had intention to go to Shikarpore, where, agreeably to your desire, I have dispatched strict orders to my officers to attend your services.

There exists great friendship between you and myself for a long period, and particularly since we passed happy days together in the hunting expedition, consequently I am very desirous to see you, and if you would come down here for a few nights, we would meet each other, and our friendship would increase.

Consider me your friend, let me hear from you.

No. 78.

Inclosed note from Meer Noor Mahomed Khan to Sir A. Burnes.

I WILL shortly after this send my confidential agent to wait upon you. He will deliver the messages, which I have explained to him.

Other affairs are good, and I wish your welfare.

No. 79.

The Resident in Sinde to the Senior Officer of the British Troops at the mouths of the Indus.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 18, 1838.

I DO myself the honour to intimate to you, that the troops under your command are to land with the concurrence of the Sinde Government, and that you are therefore to consider yourself in a friendly country.

2. My wish is, that you should move up to Vikkur and there encamp and remain, until the whole force shall be assembled.

3. I am just about to dispatch my assistant, Lieutenant Eastwick, with a number of river boats which I have engaged for the public service at this place, and, as that officer is fully acquainted with my views, and the state of affairs at this capital, I beg to refer you to his verbal communications for any information you may require.

4. Should Lieutenant Eastwick not have arrived at Vikkur before this letter reaches you, the British native agent at the mouths of the Indus (Madhajee Anunt) will afford you every aid in his power in procuring boats to disembark the troops.

5. I request that you will be so kind as to hand this letter over to any officer, senior to yourself, who may arrive from Bombay, or elsewhere.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 80.

The Resident in Sinde to his Assistant, Lieutenant Eastwick.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 18, 1838.

THE state of affairs at this capital prevents my proceeding to the mouths of the Indus, as I had intended, on the expected arrival of the troops from Bombay.

2. I have, therefore, resolved to depute you to communicate with the officer in command, and I proceed to give you a few brief hints for your guidance.

3. I inclose a copy of a letter which I have this day written to the senior officer with the troops.

4. Your intimate acquaintance with my views, and the political prospects at this moment, renders it quite unnecessary that I should enlarge on them in this letter.

5. The chief object is to get the troops disembarked as they arrive, and conveyed, with the stores, &c., to Vikkur where there is excellent encamping ground, on the left bank of the river above the village.

6. In the first instance, the troops might, I think, be advantageously landed at a small hamlet immediately inside the sea mouth of the Hujamree river till the whole of the first division are on shore, and thence they can either march to Vikkur, or be re-embarked in the smaller sized sea-boats and the river craft, and come up by water.

7. In either case the heavy stores, ammunition, &c. will, I conclude, come by water.

8. I fancy you will find 500 or 600 camels already engaged by the native agent, and those you can hand over to the officers of the Commissariat Department (should that not have been already done), who will receive instructions from the commanding officer as to their appropriation.

9. It will be one of your principal duties, to prevent, by every means in your power, disputes and altercations between our people (whether troops or followers) and the inhabitants of the country. Your sojourn in Sinde, though short, has been sufficiently long to prove to you, that the barbarism and ignorance of the natives of this province render it most difficult and trying to the

temper, to deal with them, and at the same time you must be fully sensible, that it is of the last importance to the success of the political and military objects of the British Government, that we should all bear with, and even strive to conciliate, every class of the population, and thereby lead them to hail our arrival with joy and gratitude.

10. I cannot, therefore, too strongly impress this topic upon you, nor too earnestly beg that you will point it out to the commanding officer, with a view to the troops and camp-followers being warned as to what is expected of them.

11. In spite, however, of every precaution, complaints will doubtless reach you, and these you will refer to the commanding officer, using, in concert with him, your best endeavours to adjust them amicably (consulting, of course, the officers of the Sinde Government) and to prevent any ill will or disgust being engendered by them.

12. I presume that Lieutenant Threshie, of the Commissariat department, will have laid in a large supply of live stock (sheep, goats, and bullocks) for the Europeans, and forage for the horses; should he require any money, you can advance him a portion of the cash I send with you, taking his receipts in duplicate, and if he wants more, I have told him he can raise it by selling bills on me or Captain Melvill.

13. I expect a large quantity of specie or bullion will be consigned to me by some of the vessels from the Presidency. This you will have to receive charge of, and in doing so, you will apply for a sufficient guard to take care of it, and keep it there, until you hear from me as to its dispatch to this place.

14. I intend to send with you 36,000 Hyderabad rupees, which you know are disbursed by me at the rate of 125 to 100 Company's rupees. Of the above sum you had better retain 6,000 rupees to pay up the hire of boats, camels, &c., till the day of their transfer to the departments, and the remainder you can, if wanted, make over to the officers of the Commissariat and Pay Departments.

15. I have likewise requested Captain Melvill to send two lacs of rupees' worth of cowries from Cutch; they will be equally good as rupees to pay the hire of Cutch boats and camels, whilst at Vikkur, and you can dispose of them as pointed out in the preceding and twelfth paragraphs. The cowries are to be disbursed at the rate of 300 to 100 Hyderabad rupees or 375 to 100 Company's.

16. Noor Mahomed Khan has appointed Syud Sadig Shah to accompany you. The Governor of the districts about Vikkur, Gholam Shah, is now there, and these two men have been directed to afford you every assistance.

17. I request you will shew this letter to the senior officer with the troops, and also submit it to his Excellency the Commander-in-chief when he arrives.

I am, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 81.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 19, 1838.

IN my letter of the 12th instant, I had the honor to report my proceedings up to that period.

2. I heard on the 13th that Syud Ismael Shah had publicly given out that my arguments were not to be refuted, and has remarked, that Noor Mahomed had applied to him when it was too late, to repair the errors that had been committed.

3. On the morning of the 14th, Noor Mahomed Khan summoned the Moonshees, and just as they were setting off to the city, Syud Ismael Shah, accompanied by his sons Zynoolabdeen and Sadig Shah, arrived at the tents.

4. After some desultory conversation, Zynoolabdeen said they had brought another memorandum, which, with my leave, he would read.

5. I assented, of course, and he began to read, "As every thing is now finally and happily settled, there are certain points on which his Highness wishes to be assured by you."

6. I instantly interrupted him; I said that nothing was settled; that if the Governor-General were pleased to forgive all that had passed, it would be my duty to do so also, but not otherwise. I repeated in still plainer language, if possible, the observations I made on the 12th instant. I particularly pointed to the warnings I had about treachery. I distinctly stated that, had anything of the sort been attempted, the race and name of Talpoor would have been extinguished; that no man would have dared to say he belonged to it, and that it would hereafter have been spoken of as a tribe, only known for their infamous attack on ambassadors at their court. I declared over and over again, that I was ready to quit Hyderabad, if Noor Mahomed Khan desired it, that very day; that we would take a road through Sinde, were it not given, and do as we considered necessary for the great interests we had at stake. I appealed to Ismael Khan, and inquired what he would have thought when he was deputed as a Vakeel to Bombay in 1820, had he been warned by the chief secretary and the Governor's son to beware of treachery, would a subsequent simple denial have satisfied either him or the Ameers? I spoke for nearly an hour, and the deputation seemed actually frightened at my earnestness and vehemence.

7. When I had done, they begged me to listen to the memorandum of which the following were the items:—

1st. The Ameers to be assured under our guarantee, against all aggression of the Sikhs or Affghans hereafter.

2nd. The Resident in Sinde never to have a larger suite than now with me.

3rd. For me to give a note to the commanding officer of the army not to allow a single man of the troops to come on this side of the river.

4th. The presents proposed to be sent to Runjeet Sing, to be submitted to, and approved of by me, and my advice to be taken on every point.

5th. A person about to be sent to Bombay to execute commissions for Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, to be furnished with a letter by me, that he might be treated with due attention, and all duties excused on the goods he bought.

6th. A Sinde vakeel to be sent to Calcutta agreeable to the terms of the Treaty of two Articles.

7th. A letter to be written by me to the Resident at Bagdad, to advance such further sums as might be required for the repairs of the aqueduct at Kerbela, and to draw bills on me.

8. We went over the memorandum a second time, and I replied to each item separately in detail, but I deem it needless to do more than submit the purport of my answers.

1st. I had not the smallest intention of making myself a party to any insinuations of aggressions on the part of Maharajah Runjeet Sing, or Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk. Had Noor Mahomed Khan accepted the Governor-General's mediation, our guarantee was provided for in it.

2nd. The Resident would have more or less attendants as suited his taste, and the pleasure of his Government. At Bhooj, I had no sepoys whatever; but there, I had not been warned that the lives of my suite and myself were in jeopardy.

3rd. I would neither give such a note as was requested, nor would his Excellency the Commander-in-chief attend to it, if he saw good reason to differ from it.

4th. I would not look at the presents intended for the Maharajah. It would be a reflection on his Highness's dignity; and I fully, ironically speaking, appreciated Noor Mahomed Khan's vast friendship, in throwing the odium of insulting that ruler, on my shoulders.

5th. I would give a letter to the Governor in Council of Bombay, who would act as seemed fitting.

6th. If the vakeel were sent to Calcutta he would be received, but with a different feeling from what would have been shown some months ago.

7th. The arrangement for the Resident at Bagdad advancing money could only be made through the Government of Bombay.

9. When this was all discussed the deputation said, that Noor Mahomed

Khan was very anxious for me to set about building the Residency on any spot I liked. They all recommended me to do so to the eastward of the city. I waived the subject, by saying I should, when at leisure, take a ride and look out for a good site.

10. As the deputation rose to go away, Ismael Shah took me aside and whispered to me, "All you have said is quite true and right, and I hope you will believe, that I and my family are the hearty well-wishers and friends of the British Government." I thanked him for his opinion and good wishes, and they departed.

11. The Moonshees afterwards went to the palace agreeably to Noor Mahomed Khan's summons. He had just been closeted with the deputation and was evidently much agitated and alarmed. He asked why they had not been there for the two preceding days. They answered they had no orders from me to wait on him. He told them to do so daily; asked if I had any late news of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, the Bombay troops, &c. They replied, that all the arrangements for the Bombay army were announced in the Government Gazette just come to hand, and that Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk had most likely moved from Loodiana. The interview ended by the Ameer proposing I should visit him on Saturday the 17th, which was afterwards altered to this day, but as I have not been very well lately, I have excused myself from going, till I feel better.

12. On the 16th, sent the Moonshees to the Durbar to apply for a purwanna to the authorities at Subzulkote required by Captain Burnes, and to intimate my intention of dispatching Lieutenant Eastwick to Vikkur to receive the army from Bombay. What passed on that occasion I have already had the honor to submit in the inclosure to my letter of the 17th, so that I need not repeat it here.

13. In the course of the day Sobdar Khan sent me a secret message to the effect, that he was in no way a party to the communications made to me by the deputations of the 12th and 14th instant. He said he had written a civil reply to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk wishing His Majesty success in his attempt to regain his throne; that all he had seen or heard of us, confirmed him in his ardent desire to be on the closest terms with the British Government; that, although his friendship was recent, he hoped he would not be thought the less sincere, and that I was to believe nothing that did not come direct from himself.

14. Late in the evening of the 17th, I had the honor to receive the duplicate of your dispatch of the 29th ultimo. It affords me an inexpressible degree of satisfaction to believe from its tenor, that I have, in every way, anticipated the wishes of his Lordship the Governor-General of India. After an anxious review of my proceedings from first to last, I am not sensible of having deviated from the course your letter prescribes for me.

15. I hope that Captain Sir Alexander Burnes will not re-agitate the discussions at Khyrpore, until that can be done with perfect safety to Meer Roostum Khan. There is still a party at that place, headed by Meer Moobaruk, ready to support Noor Mahomed Khan, and it is at their suggestion that Jan Khan (the chief alluded to in Captain Burnes' letter to me of the 11th instant) has been deputed from Hyderabad.

16. I may add, whilst on this subject, with reference to the 3rd paragraph of your letter to Sir Alexander Burnes of the above-named date, that all my inquiries tend to make me doubt whether the fortress of Bukkur could be made available for any purpose beyond a mere place of strength. The river rushes down there with vast rapidity, and the only point of the rock at which I am told, boats can bring to, is so narrow, that they are frequently carried past it, and require a whole day, or more, to get back; I also doubt whether Roostum Khan dare to transfer it to us, unless we had troops on the spot to awe his relations.

17. Although it was hardly necessary after all my plain speaking, as reported in this and my former letters, I have sent the Moonshees to tell Noor Mahomed Khan, that I have received an acknowledgment of my communications to you of the 6th and 10th ultimo; that the Governor-General of India, even then, viewed the conduct of the Ameer with the highest displeasure and surprise; and that his Highness may judge of the effect which

the succeeding reports, from all quarters, will have had on his Lordship's mind.

15. Lieutenant Eastwick has proceeded to the mouths of the Indus, and I beg to submit copies of my instructions to him, and of a letter which I wrote yesterday to the senior officer with the troops.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 82.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Ghouspore, November* 19, 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India, to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated respectively 27th, 28th, and 31st ultimo, and 1st, 3rd, and 6th instant, with their several inclosures, and in reply to state that the intelligence which you have now conveyed of the continued favourable feeling of the Chief of Khyrpore towards the British Government, is highly gratifying to his Lordship.

2. The instructions already forwarded to you regarding the treaty to be formed with Meer Roostum Khan, will have placed you fully in possession of his Lordship's views on that point.

3. Herewith you will receive under a flying seal, a dispatch to the address of Colonel Pottinger, which you will be pleased to forward to that officer with all practicable expedition. It contains instructions relative to other points of the pending negotiation.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 83.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, at Ghouspore, November* 19, 1838.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India, to acknowledge the receipt of your several letters dated respectively the 13th, 17th, 18th, 25th, and 30th (two), ultimo, and 2nd instant, with their inclosures, and in reply, to acquaint you as follows:—

Your proceedings, as reported in your two communications of the 17th and 18th ultimo, for facilitating the progress of the Bombay force, have met with the entire approbation of the Governor-General.

The Governor-General has received, with very painful feelings, the reports you have furnished of the continued treachery and enmity of the two principal Ameers of Sinde: his Lordship is not yet prepared to record a final opinion as to the measures which may be necessary for our future security against their machinations.

Much will depend on the amount of evidence which may be obtainable as to the extreme duplicity of those Ameers in their intercourse with Persia, of which, although there is no doubt in the mind of his Lordship, some difficulty may be found in obtaining positive proof; much will depend, also, on the readiness they may evince in affording facilities for the progress of our army, and in complying with any other demands which we may deem just and proper.

The Governor-General is hardly disposed to concur entirely in the opinion you have expressed, to the effect that the circumstances specified in the 21st paragraph of your letter, dated the 25th ultimo, however clearly they demonstrate the want of all honour and honesty in the character of Noor Mahomed Khan, are such as to place that chief at our mercy. Should his future conduct make amends for his past, and should he evince a disposition to meet our just and necessary views, the Governor-General would be unwilling to proceed to extremities, but his Lordship has no hesitation in stating, that Noor Mahomed's conduct has already been such as to make it impossible that he should ever

be regarded with confidence by the British Government; and his Lordship is further of opinion, that an arrangement similar to that suggested by you in the 12th paragraph of your letter above cited, would, for the same reason, be equitable and expedient.

If, therefore, the negotiations into which you are about to enter, should not end in a ready submission to all our just demands by Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khan, so as to place our relations with Sinde on a secure and satisfactory footing, or in the elevation of Meer Sobdar to the supremacy of Lower Sinde, you are authorized not only to expunge from the agreement granted to Meer Sobdar the expression objected to by that chief, but to guarantee to each member of the family his separate possessions, upon their agreeing to pay such quota of a fair and reasonable subsidy, as it may be deemed proper to require from them. Separate treaties may be formed with each, on the terms recently proposed to the Ameer of Khyrpore, from whom, however, with reference to his ready avowal of fidelity and friendship, and in consideration of his permitting us to occupy the fort of Bukkur during the approaching operations, no subsidy will be demanded.

The Governor-General is of opinion that much of advantage may be expected from this subdivision of authority. By separating the territorial possessions of each chief, a separation of their interests will probably follow, and they will be deprived of the motive by which they appear to have been more or less actuated to combine, with a view to the injury of our power. Independently of these considerations, it is to be apprehended that, in the present complicated state of their interests, much difficulty might be experienced in obtaining from them such contributions as we might reasonably expect, with the view of partially defraying the expense we shall incur in establishing a force on the frontier of the lower line of the Indus: without some such consideration as a guaranteed independence to each chief, in the possessions awarded to him, we might not be able to offer a sufficient inducement to those of the family to contribute towards the general security, against whom we have not the same grounds of complaint as against the two principal Ameers of Hyderabad.

It should be made a chief object of any negotiation into which you may be led, to stipulate for the free navigation of the Indus. It would indeed be incompatible with our position, as a subsidized power in Sinde, that the Article in the former Treaty, guarding against the use of the Indus, for the transport of military stores or munitions of war, should remain in force. His Lordship is glad to find that you advocate this principle in the concluding paragraph of your letter, of the 2nd instant.

You now seem to be of opinion that the estimate you formerly made of the revenues of Sinde, was overrated: on this point his Lordship can only remark, that the subsidy must ultimately be fixed with reference to the available means of the several Ameers. It is clear that the revenues have deteriorated in consequence of the gross misgovernment of the present chiefs; and provision should, perhaps, be made for an enhanced demand, as the resources of the State may improve, or portions of territory should at once be allotted for the support of the subsidiary force, calculated, under British management, to yield the necessary amount. You mention the cession of Kurachee; but you do not state what probable revenue this tract would produce, or to which of the Ameers it belongs. His Lordship would be glad to receive further information on these points. At present he is only prepared to say, that contributions should be required for the, at least partial, payment of a subsidiary force in Lower Sinde. The adjustment of particulars he would leave to your local knowledge, and some time may elapse before this can be definitively settled.

The Governor-General refrains for the present from recording any opinion relative to the releases which His Majesty Shah Shooja is stated to have executed. Admitting the documents produced to be genuine, and that they imply a relinquishment of all claim to tribute, still they would hardly appear to be applicable to present circumstances; and it is not conceivable that His Majesty should have foregone so valuable a claim without some equivalent, or that some counterpart agreement should not have been taken, the non-fulfilment of the terms of which may have rendered null and void His Majesty's engagements.

Whatever may be the real facts of the case, the question is one which

concerns the contracting parties. It will be for the Ameers of Sinde to consider whether it will not be of the first importance to them, to make such a final arrangement with Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, as shall secure their being guaranteed by the British Government in the independence of their country, after his accession to power.

The Governor-General is of opinion, that it is not incumbent on the British Government to enter into any formal investigation of the plea adduced by the Ameers, though the arbitration of the question might possibly be left to the Envoy and Minister at the Court of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, if His Majesty and the Ameers should both be desirous of this mode of adjusting it.

With reference to the 5th paragraph of your letter, dated the 2nd instant, it is true that you have met with more than unfriendly conduct from the Durbar, but, having obtained facilities for the admission of our troops into the country, and the recent behaviour of the Ameers having ostensibly assumed a less inimical appearance, his Lordship is clearly of opinion that you should remain at the capital to carry through your negotiations, unless, indeed, circumstances should have since occurred to render your further stay inconsistent with the honor and dignity of your own Government, or otherwise inexpedient.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 84.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 21, 1838.

SINCE I had the honor to hear from you, that you had written a very kind letter to Meer Roostum Khan, I have had further intercourse with the Khyrpore Chief, through his Minister, who was sent over here to meet me.

2. He reported to me the arrival of Jan Khan, from Hyderabad, and stated his messages to be most urgent on the Khyrpore family to send an agent to Hyderabad, and that Noor Mahomed had pledged himself that it was by your advice that he sought one. This I had no difficulty in denying.

3. The Minister then implored of me to come to some settlement with them, for they knew not what was to happen to Sinde, and they might be involved in ruin when they expected other things; and stated, if I advised it, and would make the treaty, they would send a son to Hyderabad. I replied that such a step would be ruinous to them; that I delayed, simply that I might give the Hyderabad Ameers no cause for further committing themselves. I however said, that open enmity on the part of Meer Moobaruck Khan, could not be worse than his present line of procedure.

4. This evening a messenger from the Minister brought the accompanying letter for my perusal, which is from Roostum Khan's Agent at Hyderabad. It will shew you the feeling of Noor Mahomed Khan. Of it I said that it gave rise in my mind to nothing but pure compassion, that any one like Noor Mahomed could presume, in these times, to talk of warring with the English; and that I knew Meer Roostum Khan had better sense than to do so.

I have, &c.,

A. BURNES.

No. 85.

Lalla Asnund, at Hyderabad, to his Master, Meer Roostum Khan, Chief of Khyrpore.

AGREEABLY to request, I yesterday accompanied Nawab Ahmed Khan to wait upon Meer Noor Mahomed Khan. His Highness inquired after your health, and told me news received from that quarter.

His Highness stated that you had established a friendship with the English,

and ordered Khan Mahomed Khan to accompany Captain Burnes across the river. His Highness added also, that you dismissed Captain Burnes with assurances of cordiality, and gave orders for the purchase of grain.

Considering your master (said Noor Mahomed Khan,) the elder of the family, we have sent to him many letters asking his opinion what to do with the British, and told him that we would fight or make peace with that Power, as he thinks advisable. He has neither replied to my letters, nor informed me of the arrangements entered into with Captain Burnes, while I (Noor Mahomed) have neither settled anything with Colonel Pottinger, nor given him leave to build a Residency, but now we have been obliged to contract friendship with the English.

Noor Mahomed Khan told me to go to Tatta, and come back soon, that the departure of the Sikh might not be delayed.

The Ameer considers you (Meer Roostum) the elder of the family, and since the late Meer Sohrab Khan and Meer Moorad Ali, were one in good and in bad, it is proper that nothing should be done without the knowledge of Meer Roostum Khan.

The Ameer has sent Meer Jan Khan to Sevistan (Sewan) with this message, that it will be most advisable if the Meer will take the trouble to come down to this place, where Noor Mahomed would have the pleasure of meeting him. It is incumbent that the Ameers of Khyrpore and Hyderabad should first consult with each other, or else the English will injure us.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan has told me many things of the above-mentioned description, and I, waiting the answer for a long time, intend now to go to Tatta.

I have written all this for your information.

No. 86.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 21, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General, a copy of my letter of this day's date to Colonel Pottinger. Annexed to this letter will be found an exposition of the views of the Hyderabad Government at the conduct of the Khyrpore Ameer, which is truly satisfactory, since they plainly state that, though ready for war, the proceedings of Meer Roostum Khan have led to their submission.

2. In the event of all other arrangements failing, I really see no objection to our making this elder of the family the ruler of Sinde. He is old, and would be compliant; while he lives he would do as we wished, and afterwards we might make other arrangements.

I have, &c.,
ALEXANDER BURNES.

No. 87.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 23, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th instant, with its inclosures, which reached me late yesterday evening.

2. My dispatches of the 12th and 19th instant and of this date, will have kept you fully acquainted with the course of events at this place, and if you believe there are any grounds in the assertions made to me by Zynoolabdeen Shah, that Meer Roostum Khan has agreed to meet Noor Mahomed Khan at Sehwan, it might perhaps be advisable to bring forward the terms of the Treaty furnished to you in Mr. Macnaghten's letter of the 29th ultimo, without further delay. The hope, that you would not do so, expressed in the 15th paragraph of my dispatch, of the 19th, instant to the above

gentleman, solely arose from my anxiety regarding Meer Roostum Khan, but perhaps anything is better for him, than allowing his mind to be worked on by Noor Mahomed Khan and his advisers, whilst he (Roostum Khan) may entertain any doubts, however slight, of our ultimate intentions towards him. So far as my duties and measures at this capital are concerned, it is almost superfluous to observe, that Noor Mahomed Khan can say, or do nothing that will change my sentiments.

3. In saying what I have done in the preceding part, I think it incumbent on me to remark, that I cannot reconcile to Meer Roostum Khan's professions of devotion and friendship towards us, his having asked you to fix Ghotkee as the point at which the Bengal armies were to cross the Indus. From the moment that place was mentioned here, I heard from all classes that it was the worst ferry on the river; and although it is no immediate business of mine, I have since made such inquiries as have satisfied me that it would have been most difficult (if not impossible) to effect the crossing of the troops at that point.

4. On the other hand, the ferry at Bukkur, is, I am told, the best between the Sea and Mithenkote. It has been from time immemorial, the great thoroughfare between Khorassan and India, and, in my humble judgment, it should not be deviated from, unless some other spot has advantages and facilities over it, which are apparent to all eyes, for unless that is the case, the alteration will be solely ascribed to our admission of the propriety of the suspicions and objections of the Khyrpore Government. Your demand for the temporary occupation of the fortress of Bukkur, will, however, put Meer Roostum Khan's friendship to the test, and, under any circumstances, I beg you to believe that the observations I have offered are solely the offspring of my earnest anxiety, that every thing should be arranged so as to meet to their fullest extent, the objects and pleasure of the Governor-General, for whose information a copy of this letter will be transmitted.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 88.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 23, 1838.

I LAST reported my proceedings to the 19th instant, in my dispatch of that date.

2. On the delivery of my message alluded to in the 17th paragraph of that letter, the Moonshee had a long discussion with Noor Mahomed, which was almost a repetition of all those that I have lately had occasion to submit to the Governor-General of India, and with which I need not trouble his Lordship.

3. Early on the 20th the same deputation that had been with me on the 12th and 14th instant, arrived at the tents, and our conference lasted nearly three hours; but I shall only, in this communication, refer to what was new matter in it, for I feel his Lordship must be fatigued with the perusal of the bare-faced falsehoods and unblushing assertions of "firm and devoted friendship," in which Noor Mahomed Khan persists, with a degree of pertinacity such as is quite wonderful.

4. The Ameer had told the Moonshees, he and Nusseer Khan were ready to pay down their portion of the sum to be given to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; and after the army had passed through Sinde, he and I would arrange for recovering the shares of his brothers and relations, and seizing their possessions, if they did not agree.

5. The deputation did not allude to this latter point (which I suppose Noor Mahomed was afraid to trust them with); but they repeated the Meer's proposal as to his and Nusseer Khan's share; and, after discussing it for an hour, all they got out of me was, that I was not authorized to interfere, but that I would give any persons they chose to depute to the frontier, a letter to Mr. Macnaghten, the British Minister with the Shah.

6. The deputation next said that Noor Mahomed Khan had understood that I had been making inquiries about messengers having come from Candahar; and that, if I could prove that he had written to, or received a letter from, the

chiefs of that place, since I arrived at Hyderabad, he would freely admit that the Governor-General's displeasure was well grounded. Whether he had done so, or not, at that time, I have not been able to find out; but I have heard since, that the letters alluded to in Captain Sir Alexander Burnes' dispatch of the 9th instant, to the Secretary of the Government at Bombay, have reached this place. The day, however, for their having any effect is gone, as the sequel of this dispatch will show.

7. Amongst the other absurd assertions which the deputation made, was, that Noor Mahomed Khan had written to Mehrab Khan of Kelat, to seize Hajee Hoossein Ali Khan, if to be found in his territories; and to send him to Hyderabad, tied hand and foot. I simply said, in answer to this affirmation, that I should believe it, when I saw the Hajee at this place.

8. The party next alluding to some arrangements which Captain Sir Alexander Burnes is making at Shikarpore, stated, that he was building a large inclosure outside, and repairing the Durbar inside the city; that Noor Mahomed Khan wished to know by whose authority this was being done, and whether the Governor-General would consider him unfriendly if he prohibited it. I said that, doubtless, his Lordship would; that I knew nothing of Sir Alexander Burnes' orders, but I concluded that officer was preparing places for the grain and stores. The deputation rejoined, that if I would forbid the progress of the work, the Sinde authorities would be directed to do all that was required; to which I answered, that I had neither the power nor wish to accede to any such proposal.

9. On the 21st instant, the two Ameers left Hyderabad, avowedly to shoot at a preserve about four miles off, but with the real object of conferring in secret. They were recalled in the evening, owing to the death of one of the chiefs of Meerpore; and yesterday afternoon, Noor Mahomed Khan sent for the Moonshees, with whom he was closeted alone for upwards of two hours. I gave them the alleged original firman from the King of Persia (which had been inclosed to me by Captain Burnes), to show to the Ameer, stating, that whether it was a fabrication or genuine, it mattered little, as it served to demonstrate that the Ameer's correspondence with the Shah was notorious. Noor Mahomed Khan, with that extraordinary absence of compunction which marks his demeanour, observed, that it was fortunate for him that the firman had fallen into the hands of his friends, as it established his innocence, from the style and address being different to those which had been used to his father by the deceased Futteh Ali Shah, to prove which he would send some of the latter [redacted]'s letters for my inspection.

10. He afterwards introduced the topic of the payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; said he was ready to pay any sum I chose to mention; that he was ruined by the obstinacy of his brethren; that he wished from the first to close with the kind and most disinterested proposal of the Governor-General, but that his relations would not listen to him; that I had raised him above all their heads by my long and unremitting friendship; that he trusted to my support in his distress; that he would treat with no one but me; and that he wished he had a window in his breast that I might look into his bosom, and thereby comprehend his fidelity and friendship.

11. To all these observations the Moonshees replied at great length, by pointing out the innumerable and concurrent proofs of his unfriendliness and actual treachery; they said that I had only that day heard from the officer of the Bombay Commissariat department at the mouths of the Indus, that not one seer of grain, not one boat, and not a camel had been provided there by the Sinde Authorities, notwithstanding the Ameer's positive and repeated assurances that all that should be done; that no one on behalf of the Sinde Government had ever gone near the above gentleman at Vikkur, and that he had written to me to know what he was to do for supplies, &c.; in consequence of which, I was purchasing and sending grain from this place for our troops.

12 Noor Mahomed Khan on this sent for his Moonshee and abused him and the Governor of the southern districts for not obeying his orders, which his Moonshee, at last, distinctly told him he had never given, whatever he might have intended. He seized at this idea, and observed "Perhaps I forgot it, but you know my anxiety to meet all Colonel Pottinger's wishes; and write off instantly to Gholam Shah, to do all that is required by the officers at Vikkur."

13. After this was so settled he asked my Moonshees when the troops would arrive, the number of them, and whether the general would attend to my wishes, to which queries they gave very proper replies, by saying the troops might be looked

for daily; that there would be about 6,000 men; and that the Commander-in-chief would act in concert with me in all political matters. The Ameer was evidently in a state of the greatest alarm, and he recalled the Moonshees after they had left the court, to tell them he was in my hands, and to me alone he would look for safety.

14. This morning, Zynoolabdeen came after breakfast and staid two hours. His chief object was to get me to settle the payment to the Shah (Shooja-ool-Moolk) and to decide the portions to be paid here and at Khyrpore, where he said Noor Mahomed Khan had heard that Captain Burnes had promised a total remission. I contented myself with replying that I knew nothing about any such promise; that I was aware that the Khyrpore Chiefs had set up the same plea that was done here, but that the matter was no longer in my hands.

15. Zynoolabdeen then told me that Meer Roostum Khan had agreed to meet Noor Mahomed Khan at Sehwan, and asked me, in case I could not go to that place at present, to write to the former that I approved of his coming and attending to the latter's wishes. I replied that Meer Roostum Khan was his own master, that he might meet Noor Mahomed Khan at Sehwan or not, as pleased him; that I had always known that the Khyrpore Chiefs paid a share of the tribute; but that I repeated that question was now intrusted to Mr. Macnaghten, who would do what seemed to him proper with respect to it.

16. I beg to forward for his Lordship's information, copies of letters which I have written to Lieutenants Carless and Threshie, of the Indian Navy and Bombay Commissariat, now at the mouths of the Indus; to the Political Secretary to Government at Bombay, and to Sir A. Burnes.

17. The only one of these that requires any observation from me in this place, is that regarding the strength of the subsidiary force. On this subject I have bestowed a good deal of reflection since the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, and I am of opinion that we should demand from the Ameers of Sinde the cession of all the country lying on the right bank of the Indus south of an imaginary line to be drawn due west from that river at a point ten miles (more or less) north of Tatta, until it meets the frontier of Beloochistan, at the base of the mountains. This would give us a compact territory, the complete command of the river and possession of the only sea-port. At a very rough estimate, I calculate that the cession I have indicated would yield at first a revenue of from four to five lacs of rupees, but it is one that would rapidly improve under our rule, and in a few years, I see no reason to doubt that Tatta would spring into much of its former opulence, and become a vast emporium of trade and wealth.

18. By this arrangement the Ameers would be left, with reduced incomes it is true, in the enjoyment of the only pursuits and pleasures which they seem to think of; we should be relieved of all care (except, perhaps, in a very few special cases) on account of the claims of the dependents and followers of the Ameers; the establishment of our authority, to the extent I have described, would open new and extensive sources of employment and livelihood to thousands who are now idle and in a state of starvation, as well as to those who might lose their present occupations on the change of masters; and finally, it is not perhaps too much to hope, that our example would gradually introduce habits of civilization and amendment amongst rulers and a population so eminently benighted as the Sindees now are.

19. I see manifold and cogent reasons why the subsidiary force should not be stationed at the capital, where barbarism and prejudice would lead to continual disputes without any counterbalancing advantage. My plan, therefore, would be, to have a regiment of native infantry and a company of artillery at Kurachee, and all the rest of the troops at Tatta, where there is an admirable site on the Mukalla Hills (west of the city) for a cantonment. I shall also propose that a strong detachment of Bengal troops (equal perhaps to the Kurachee one) should be kept at Sukkur on the Indus, to which I presume the Khyrpore chiefs will gladly give their assent. With these troops, and British agents residing at Hyderabad and Khyrpore, I look on it that our perfect supremacy throughout Sinde will be as fully established as though we had entirely subjugated it,—a measure which, for the reasons recorded in some of my former dispatches, I could by no means recommend to his Lordship.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 89.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, November* 26, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, inclosing copies of a communication from the Commander-in-chief, and of a letter addressed to the Secretary with the Governor-General of India, regarding the subsidiary force for Lower Sinde, and desiring my sentiments thereon without delay.

2. My letters and inclosures of the 23rd and 24th instant, have, I think, anticipated the different points on which the Governor in Council has been pleased to require my opinion.

3. In addition to those communications, I can only add, what is perhaps apparent from the tenor of them, that I wrote them under the impression which I still entertain, that it is the intention of the Governor-General that the force which I expect shortly under the personal command of the Commander-in-chief, shall compel the Ameers into acquiescence with whatever terms are to be prescribed to them, and, after that is done, the troops enumerated in my first letter above alluded to, will, I conceive, be ample to uphold our supremacy under all possible contingencies.

4. Whether the suggestions which I have ventured to offer to his Lordship, the Governor-General of India, in my dispatch to Mr. Macnaghten's address of the 23rd instant, shall be adopted, or not, I am of opinion that the subsidiary force should proceed in one body to Kurachee, at the earliest possible period after I intimate to you that I have brought, or am about to bring, forward our demands to take possession of that place.

5. This force will have few or no cattle with it, so that forage is a secondary consideration, and the troops of every arm should bring two or three months' provisions with them, and thereby be quite independent of supplies from the country, to which it would be by no means safe to trust at first.

6. I presume that there will be no difficulty in procuring transports to convey the whole subsidiary force, with its stores, &c., in one flotilla, and should the troops have to be drawn from different quarters, a period and point might be named for the vessels to rendezvous, so as to proceed to their destination at the same instant.

7. Any modification of this plan which circumstances may intermediately render advisable, I shall not fail to respectfully intimate to Government.

8. I shall transmit a copy of this letter for the information of the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 90.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, November* 26, 1838.

AFTER a week's stay at this place, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that the Minister of Meer Roostum Khan returned yesterday to Khyrpore. I have not troubled his Lordship with the substance of many long and protracted interviews, the object of which was to bring me to conclude the Treaty with his master, and the unpopularity which had come upon him personally, and upon Meer Roostum Khan, by adhering to us when we had so many enemies in Sinde.

2. I told the Minister that, on leaving Khyrpore, the Ameer had observed, while speaking of Noor Mahomed Khan's conduct, that there were three courses open to Kings on such proceedings, to sell as a merchant, to put to death as a butcher, and to pardon as a sovereign, and it was to avoid all chance of the second course that I refrained from agitating at present the Treaty, but that he was to return

to Khyrpore with my assurance, that it was as surely to be completed, as if it had been signed and sealed.

3. The Minister of course wished much more active proceedings, and proceeded to tell me that Meer Moobaruck Khan was boasting that I never would make the Treaty; that I had deceived them; that Jan Khan, the Hyderabad Agent, would get him included in Colonel Pottinger's treaty at Hyderabad; and that Jan Khan himself had brought full powers from Hyderabad, and agreed under his seal to bring Colonel Pottinger along with all the Ameers to Sehwan, where a final treaty concerning all parties would be ratified.

4. On Meer Moobaruck's proceedings, I expressed myself firmly, that I never could advise his Lordship to include such a person's name in the treaty I was to enter upon, and, if I did so, at Meer Roostum Khan's request, it would be under the distinct understanding that the Governor-General would probably strike it out. To Jan Khan's promises I gave a flat contradiction, and said the whole was a tissue of falsehood and fabrication. With regard to Moobaruck Khan's being included in the Hyderabad treaty, though I did not venture to state so, I entirely concur with Moobaruck himself, and have to suggest that he should be made a party to that treaty, and pay a quota of the subsidy, like the other offenders at Hyderabad.

5. The Minister stated, that if any one went to Hyderabad, Meer Roostum Khan had desired him to tell me that he would confiscate his estate, which would be the best proof of his determination.

6. Before leaving, the Minister made known to me certain circumstances to which I gave, at the time, no credit, but which Colonel Pottinger's dispatch of the 19th instant received, and which accompanies this, now demonstrates to be true. "Are you aware," said the Minister, "that orders arrived some six or eight days ago from Hyderabad to turn you out of the small fort you have occupied as a granary, and also from Shikarpore? It is true, and if you get hold of Jeth Mull the Hindoo, and manager here, privately, and frighten him, he will tell you so, and that he wrote back in reply to the orders from Hyderabad, that he was a servant and ready to obey, but what power had he when we had been brought over here by a son of Meer Roostum's Minister, and were now waited upon by the Minister himself." I was very incredulous on such a subject and turned the whole into ridicule, telling the Minister that our ejectment from Shikarpore sealed the fate of Lower Sinde, and placed the country and its twenty lacs of rupees in the coffers of the British Government. The Minister replied: "You will soon come to know that, on this, and many other points, we are the means of bringing the Hyderabad people to their senses."

7. I treated much of this as an enhancing of Roostum Khan's services, till I found late this evening by Colonel Pottinger's private letter to Mr. Colvin, that the Hyderabad Ameers have, by a deputation, gravely brought forward our proceedings here, and the Resident has been solicited to forbid me from proceeding with inclosures, &c. If at the capital the Ameers could think of such a request, it is of course too clear, that the orders alluded to by the Minister have been duly received at Shikarpore.

8. I have to thank Colonel Pottinger for his decided and distinct reply to the deputation, but I beg to state for his Lordship's notice the particulars regarding the inclosure. Lieutenant Scott found a deserted old garee or fort, unfit for all military purposes, but most convenient as a granary; of this he did not take possession till the Hyderabad Ameer's agent had given his fullest sanction; possessed of it, the gate (for it has no door) was placed under four Sindian soldiers furnished by the Hyderabad Government, who now keep it, and the granary itself is in charge of Narayun Dass, a steady Hindoo, and a servant of the Governor, whom the Governor himself furnished to Lieutenant Scott. Added to this, all the officers of the Sinde Government, and people of respectability, are permitted to enter whenever they choose. As for a granary in town, Lieutenant Scott has none, so that a more frivolous, vexatious, and unmeaning, complaint was never made, and still upon this complaint, but for Roostum Khan's officers, we might have had to leave Shikarpore.

9. It will not fail to strike his Lordship that not only in this matter, but all the equally frivolous requests made of Colonel Pottinger in the dispatch forwarded, the Hyderabad Government does not yet by any means understand its true status; while its vitality as a State is endangered they speak of getting arms and ammunition free of duty, of old canals being repaired by our assistance, and that

their vakeel would have certain indulgences when sent to Calcutta, &c. These people may be afraid, but they are not brought to a correct understanding.

10. I therefore most respectfully submit my opinion, which I shall also impart to Colonel Pottinger by sending him a copy of this letter, that besides the fixing of a subsidiary force in Sinde, as a *sine qua non*, which is a measure of the soundest policy, Noor Mahomed Khan, if permitted to reign at all, should further be compelled to send his son, to apologize for all his misdemeanours, to the Governor-General. The location of troops will only show what the British can do by force, but the deputation of a son to wait on the head of the British Government, will put an end to the insufferable gasconading of this petty Government, and be the surest sign to the neighbouring nations that a long line of insults has been atoned for, and that the next penalty will not be the military occupation of Sinde, but the assumption of the government of the country.

11. From the 15th and 16th paragraphs of Colonel Pottinger's letter, his Lordship will learn the Resident's sentiments on Khyrpore affairs and Bukkur. I shall take care not to agitate the Treaty too soon, but I shall not delay longer than to hear that our troops are all landed in Sinde. The resolution to fix a force permanently in this country certainly diminishes the value of Bukkur as a military position, since we can possess ourselves of it when we choose, and it is not a place of artificial strength at present, and can now never be made so without an insult to our alliance. I will by no means lose sight of his Lordship's views on the subject of Bukkur, but if Hyderabad becomes the station of a subsidiary force, and Bukkur is demanded by us, men's eyes will see only that we have seized Sinde, and made no distinction between friend and foe. It is not too, as I understand, the military possession of Bukkur which frightens the Ameers so much, as our vicinity to their families, but I feel satisfied that, with increasing confidence, we shall, ere long, gain all we wish here, and if we do not have Bukkur now given to us, a clause in the Treaty leaving us to take our measures on emergency will enable us to secure it; my only apprehension when I bring it forward, will be, that the Hyderabad faction here will make use of the request to taunt Meer Roostum Khan and turn him from us.

12. On the 18th instant, I forwarded a copy of a letter from Noor Mahomed Khan to myself; I did not then know that he had sent it by an express messenger who is still in my camp, and was requested to bring an answer. To night another letter from Meer Nusseer Khan has reached me, who is also anxious to "hear of my welfare," but I shall dismiss both the messengers without delay, and send no direct answers but under a flying seal to Colonel Pottinger, for his approval before delivery, and agreeably to the annexed drafts. The Ameers of Sinde have hitherto received far too much consideration from us, and, the more consideration they continue to receive, the greater will be their pretensions and arrogance.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 91.

Sir A. Burnes to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

Shikarpore, November 26, 1838.

I HAD great pleasure in receiving your friendly letter, and have to thank you for the orders which you sent to your officers at Shikarpore.

In truth, I remember the friendly conversation which we had together while on the hunting expedition last year, and all the kindness which I experienced at your hands. The tree of friendship is an evergreeen, it requires water to keep it fresh, and if neglected the branches get withered and the tree dies.

When your confidential agent reaches me, I shall be glad to hear t[illegible] messages which you have given to him, but, I cannot, my friend, interfere in y[illegible] affairs. The Governor-General has invested Colonel Pottinger with full p[illegible] at Hyderabad, he is the representative of his Lordship, and if you off[illegible] you offend his Lordship. I shall be delighted to hear that you have at[illegible] all his suggestions, as there is no hope of pleasing the Governor-Gene[illegible]

it. Here there is nothing but friendship, and as I wish your Highness well, I hope to hear of nothing but friendship with you.

No. 92.

Sir A. Burnes to Meer Nusseer Khan.

I RECEIVED your friendly letter last night, and thank you for it. I am always glad to hear of your Highness's welfare; it is incumbent on sincere friends to know each other's welfare, and when I hear of your's it pleases me.

Consider me a friend who remembers your former kindness and attentions; all here is friendship, and all act with one heart.

No. 93.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Shikarpore, November* 29, 1838.

EVERY succeeding event points to the policy of securing ourselves on the Indus, and that, too, without delay. As it is a protection of what we have, and not territorial aggrandizement, that we seek for, my decided conviction is, that we should take possession of no portion of Sinde. The specious cession of part of Shikarpore to us, in 1836, by the Ameers, shewed how jealously, and justly so, the ruler of the Punjab viewed our proceedings; and if we lay claim to any of the Sinde territories, unless as sites for cantonments and protection, we shall tarnish our national honor throughout Asia, and lead to the belief that we have advanced Shah Shooja to increase our territories. The only exception to this would be the demand for the port of Kurachee, which I long since suggested; or, at all events, certain immunities connected with it, so that our landing and our trade be not molested. One valid objection to the plan of cession brought forward by the Resident, has struck me, that it will include a considerable portion of the jagheers of a chief whom we wish to conciliate, Meer Sobdar Khan, and for which it would be difficult to give him a return that did not cause civil commotion.

It is, I think, farther to be maintained, that the Ameers of Sinde, though they have exhibited hostile and rancorous feelings towards us, have been, as yet, guilty of no act by which we can deprive them of their country. The intention to injure is not tantamount to injury, and only justifies precautionary measures in self-defence,—the first law of nature, and the basis of our present policy west of the Indus,—that no future injury may befall us; a binding to keep the peace, as it is called in civil life, in a fine and securities, which are precisely what the Governor-General of India has prescribed; a subsidiary force, of 5,000 or 6,000 men as a *sine qua non*, to be maintained by those Ameers who have intrigued against us—Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed at Hyderabad, and Meer Moobaruck Khan at Khyrpore; a levy of ten lacs of rupees per annum on these personages will discharge our additional expenditure in the onerous and important duty of protecting British India from the west.

No. 94.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, December* 2, 1838.

I HAD the honor to report my proceedings up to the evening of the 23d instant in my dispatch of that date.

2. The Moonshees have been daily since to the Durbar, and the whole object of Noor Mahomed Khan is now to get me to fix the amount to be paid

to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; at first he proposed (as I have already reported) to pay his own and Nusseer Khan's shares. He gradually advanced in his offers till he was ready to do the same for Meers Meer Mahomed and Sobdar Khan; and this morning his message included even the portion of the Khyrpore Ameers, accompanied by the expression of his hope that the Governor-General would think him entitled to receive the latter hereafter from Meer Roostum Khan and his relations.

3. He seems to be perfectly aware that, could he persuade me to meet his wishes on this one point, it would be virtually an act of indemnity for all his other misdeeds. I have held, however, but one language, and that is, that I am prohibited by his Lordship from interfering further with regard to the money payment to the Shah; that, with respect to all other matters, if the Governor-General is pleased to overlook them, it will be my duty to do the same, but that I neither can, nor will, make any promise.

4. Early on the morning of the 27th I received an express from Lieutenant Eastwick, announcing the arrival of one of the transports with Major-General Willshire, and a detachment of the troops from Bombay. I found from Lieutenant Eastwick's letter, that Gholam Shah, who had been sent off a month ago (as stated in the postscript to my letter to Sir Alexander Burnes of the 22nd of October), had not only collected no grain, boats or carriages, but had intimated to Mr. Eastwick, that he had no authority to sell us any large quantity of grain. That officer pointed out to Gholam Shah that Syud Sadig Shah had come with him on the part of Noor Mahomed Khan, to which Gholam Shah rejoined by inquiring who Sadig Shah was, adding, that when the Ameers were consulting on their private affairs, such a person was not allowed to come inside the door.

5. I wrote the letters of which I have the honor to submit copies, to General Willshire and Lieutenant Eastwick. I also sent a Moonshee to Noor Mahomed Khan to inform him that part of the troops had arrived; that if grain was not sold to them, the general officer commanding would take it by force, paying its price, and would make a signal example of Gholam Shah and all others who might oppose the people disposing of their property to us. This message led to the usual assurances of regret and devotion, and two confidential servants were hurried off to Vikkur to see that all our wants were supplied.

6. Before the news of the arrival of the troops reached the city, Noor Mahomed Khan had sent for the native agent, and told him that he had issued orders for all the Beloochees (army) to come to Hyderabad to receive warm clothing. When the Moonshees went back to communicate the intelligence, he added that he had made up his mind to bring all his guns up from the bank of the river to an inclosure not far from my camp, lest the people should say they were kept at the river to awe our army. He began also to talk of his Beloochees, when the Moonshees interrupted him by saying, that the day for such nonsense was gone by; on which the Ameer replied, "You misunderstand me, if you fancy I am thinking of their opposing the British troops. I mean to say that, unless Colonel Pottinger gives me assurances, they will all fly from Hyderabad; and so will the inhabitants." He went on to observe, that he would treat with me alone; that he knew nobody but me; that I was his uncle, mother, brother, and friend; that I must save him; that he would come out to my tents, and seek protection with me from his enemies; and that I had only to name the sum to to be paid to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, when it should be instantly forth coming, and that if he could not raise it all, he would put me in possession of Larkhana or Shikarpore till it was liquidated.

7. In the course of the 27th, Sobdar Khan sent me a dewan to explain the terms on which he received the share he holds of the country. He produced an alleged copy of a written agreement, which expressly states that all claims for money paid (up to the hour it was written) to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk were cancelled, and that no demands should ever be made on that account. I told the dewan I was aware that Sobdar had held his territory only a short period; but that I was no longer empowered to discuss that question, and that I thought his master should send a vakeel to meet the Shah and Mr. Macnaghten.

8. On the 28th, I sent the Moonshees to Noor Mahomed Khan, to repeat the impossibility of my interference. I said I would not receive a crore of rupees to settle the question; that I considered the money a very secondary consideration; that, if he liked, he might depute (as he had spoken of doing) a

vakeel to the Governor-General, and that I would give him a letter; but that his reception rested solely on his Lordship's pleasure. I added that I had heard the purport of his recent messages to the Chiefs of Khyrpore through Jan Khan, as well as of his invitation to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes to come to Hyderabad; and that I was astonished, after these proofs of his continued treachery and want of reliance in or friendship for me, he ventured to ask my advice or opinion on any subject whatever.

9. On the morning of the 29th, a shot was fired from the Ameer's tope khana, or arsenal, directly over my tent and the flag-staff, and fell about 300 yards in front of the camp. I sent the Moonshee to say that I presumed the gunners were trying the range; that, even had my encampment not been in the way, I was surprised at the lives of the people being wantonly endangered; that I would move my camp down to the river, and would hereafter, perhaps, repay the insult offered the British flag with interest. The Ameers swore that they were utterly ignorant of the deed; that they would seize the perpetrators, cut off their beards, and hand them over to me to dispatch to Calcutta, to be there put to death or confined for life; but all this ended by their sending a message this morning to say that they could not establish the fact; that their commandant of artillery (an Armenian of the name of Mosa) denied it; and that they would not punish any person in their service without proof. To which I made no reply.

10. Late in the evening of the 29th, one of Nusseer Khan's sons (a child of ten years old) was sent to inquire for my health and to ask me to visit the Ameers the next day, to which I agreed; but I was too unwell to do so, and had to send an excuse. In the afternoon of the 30th I wrote the letters, of which I inclose copies, to Lieutenant Eastwick and Captain Melvill. I was called up during the night by an express from Vikkur, announcing the arrival of the "Semiramis" steamer with his Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, and the head-quarters of the army on board, at the mouths of the Indus. I wrote a letter to the Commander-in-chief early yesterday, inclosing transcripts of my various letters that could not have reached the Presidency previous to the steamer's departure, and which will place his Excellency in full possession of my views and suggestions, both to the Governor-General of India and the Bombay Government, regarding the subsidiary force. I also addressed letters to the Political Secretary at Bombay, of which I have the honor to submit copies for the Governor-General's information.

11. By the latter one his Lordship will perceive that I have determined to go to Vikkur, and I hope to leave this the day after to-morrow. The Ameers have offered me one of their jumptees or state boats, which I have declined taking, on pretence of her drawing too much water. I am to have an interview with the Ameers before I set off; at which, I understand, they mean to produce both the public and secret memoranda which I handed to them on my arrival, and to challenge me to show in what part of the former they have failed, as well as to prove the allegations made in the latter. It is almost unnecessary to say that their arguments will have no effect on me. I shall tell them that the question of the money payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk will be discussed and decided by Mr. Macnaghten; and that with respect to every thing else, the Governor-General knows all they have done, and will decide whether they have acted as his Lordship had a right to expect, after the extraordinary consideration and kindness shown for their interests.

12. The subject of our negotiations at Khyrpore and all other topics have been lost sight of; but I am told that Noor Mahomed Khan means to deny that Jan Khan was authorized by him to make the communication he did to Meer Roostum Khan and his family.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 95.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes

Sir, *Sinde Residency, December* 3, 1838.

I HAVE received intelligence from an unquestionable source, that Noor Mahomed Khan wrote two days ago to Jeth Mull, the Ijaredar of Shikarpore,

to the following effect:—"That he expected shortly cossids to arrive at Shikarpore, with letters from Candahar and other places in that quarter. That he (the Ijaredar) must take most especial precaution to prevent this fact from coming to your knowledge, and above all, the letters from falling into your hands. That with a view to these objects, he (the Ijaredar) must be on the watch for the cossids, from whom he was to take the letters and dispatch them to Hyderabad by his own messenger."

I think it very possible, if not probable, that the original ureeza to Mahomed Shah of Persia, may be amongst the expected letters, and at all events, there will doubtless be communications of a most secret nature from the Candahar Chiefs. I need not, therefore, point out to you the great importance of getting hold of them.

You will see from my other letter of this date that the Bombay troops are come, but until you have the means of protecting your grain depôts, it will perhaps not be advisable for me to bring forward our demands, even should I have been previously honoured with the Governor-General's commands. On this point I beg you will let me hear from you by express.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 96.

Sir A. Burnes to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, December* 9, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 2nd and 3rd instant this evening, with the accompanying dispatches for Government, which were forthwith forwarded to the camp of the Governor-General. I had not heard from you for nine days, and many rumours were afloat, which I am sorry to find, were not of an exaggerated nature.

2. The Hyderabad Government have of late begun to show, though in a slight degree, the same unfriendly treatment towards us, which you have throughout experienced. The Agents of Lieutenant Scott and myself, who were sent to Larkhana to procure camels, have both reported that while matters were going right, the Peer there caused all the camels to be taken away at night, consequent upon orders from Hyderabad; and on this very Peer you were kind enough to send me purwannas from Meer Noor Mahomed Khan. As I have no fear of being able to substantiate this, it is not perhaps to be regretted, as giving to us further and just cause of offence against the Hyderabad Government.

3. You ask me to inform you, by express, what are my sentiments on protecting our grain depôts, if you bring forward our demands. I am clearly of opinion that, consequent on the instructions which I forwarded to you from his Lordship, under date the 19th ultimo, you should not hesitate, on account of depôts here, to bring forward, so far as your better judgment dictates to you, the demands of Government, for there is no chance between this and two months, that our supplies here will be better protected than they are now, and the Hyderabad Government is every hour tampering with Khyrpore, and the greatest excitement prevails.

4. I have resolved at once to carry into effect the commands of the Governor-General, and tender his Lordship's terms to the Chiefs of Upper Sinde.

The only preliminary step I have taken, is to demand a written pledge that I am not answerable for any evils that may immediately flow from their acceptance, and that the Khyrpore Government becomes answerable that no harm befall our depôts. I neither anticipate the one nor the other.

5. If the Khyrpore Government does not accept the very favorable terms tendered to them, which I shall contrast by stating generally what is to befall Hyderabad, I shall consider that I best consult the honor and dignity of the British Government, by withdrawing from Sinde, and letting the chiefs here follow the reckless course of their Hyderabad relatives, and be treated accordingly. I have not much fear of such an alternative, but I cannot conceal from

myself that there is some fear, since we are not in the Khyrpore territories, but in a country partly belonging to Hyderabad, and where long lurking hostility has now shewn itself.

6. I thank you for your suggestions in the letter of the 3rd instant, and you may rely on my prompt activity to intercept, if possible, the important communications to which you allude, from Candahar.

7. May I request the favor of your submitting this letter, and all my subsequent correspondence to his Excellency the Commander-in-chief.

I have, &c.,

A. BURNES.

No. 97.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp at Umritsir, December* 13, 1838.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches, under date the 19th and 23rd ultimo, in the latter of which reference is made to a scheme of territorial possession, for the purpose of establishing British supremacy in Sinde.

The Governor-General shares in the embarrassment felt by you upon the manner in which the negotiations in Sinde can be brought to a conclusion, effective for the immediate objects of the campaign, consistent with the dignity of the British Government, establishing security for the future, and, at the same time, not confounding the Ameers who have been well affected and faithful, with those who have acted in treachery and unfriendliness. He would refer you, for his general views, to his letter of November 19th, and will only add to it, that he is not disposed to entertain any proposition having reference to territorial acquisition in Sinde, or any adjacent territory, as at all advisable under the present state of things on our north-west frontier.

The propriety, and indeed the necessity, of a subsidiary force in the territory of the Ameers, is for many reasons very evident; but his Lordship is prepared rather to submit to pecuniary sacrifice for the sake of a permanent political advantage in that country, than to incur the risk of exciting the jealousy and distrust of States, hitherto either friendly or neutral, by a course which might be construed by them, as indicative of a desire for selfish aggrandizement, rather than of a wish simply to secure the integrity of our present possessions by a course of proper precaution beyond our immediate frontier.

His Lordship has been gratified in observing, from your communications, some appearances of a disposition on the part of the principal Ameers at Hyderabad, to make up the money-payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in consideration of the guaranteed independence of their territory. The adjustment of this payment is an object of high and immediate importance, if the Ameers should generally consent to it; and, for the accomplishment of such an object, his Lordship might be willing even to sanction some reasonable abatement of the demands of the British Government.

I have, &c.,

H. TORRENS.

No. 98.

Sir Alexander Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Shikarpore, December 13, 1838.

I HASTEN to lay before the Governor-General my reasons for believing that all friendly relations with the Hyderabad State have ceased, or are about to cease.

2 Orders have been sent from Hyderabad calling for all the artillery at Larkhana to be dispatched forthwith, and thirteen purwannas have arrived since noon, calling all the troops of this quarter to the capital.

3. The Khyrpore authorities here, consisting of the Minister's son, and another confidential person, waited upon me to state these facts, to beg me to rely entirely on them for protection of all kind to our depôts and stores, and, if the worst came to the worst, to retire with them east of the Indus, into territory entirely under the Khyrpore Government. They also suggested that I should ask Lieutenant Scott to send his grain purchasers from Larkhana, if ill-treated, and send no other persons there for the present. They also spoke of the treaty which I tendered the day before yesterday, in terms which lead me to believe all is right here, but I may be mistaken.

4. In confirmation, however, of my impressions, with the party came one Khatkelu, confidential slave of Meer Moorad Khan, Meer Roostum's rich and younger brother, who presented a riding camel to me, and promised, by his name and order, to get as many camels as his country furnishes.

5. Before the deputation from Khyrpore reached, the manager of the Hyderabad authorities sent to me a note, desiring it might be delivered into my own hand. It was to tell me that he was coming to see me in the evening, and communicate face to face confidential matters.

6. The manager has been with me, and is just gone. He tells me that the artillery are ordered down, and all the troops; that he was desired by Noor Mahomed Khan to tell me that he, the manager, was my slave, and that the calling out the troops had reference to a family dispute raised by Shere Mahomed, the Chief of Meerpore, whose army was collected, and who was determined to oppose the English.

7. I expressed great doubts of the truth of such a statement, and expressed my readiness to leave Shikarpore this evening, when the manager implored me never again to speak of such a thing; that the Ameers durst not tell me, would not tell me, and did not intend to tell me, to leave. A few days will show.

8. The manager told me, which I have also heard before, that the widow of Kureem Meer, one of the deceased Ameers, has been furnishing money to the Meerpore Chiefs, and that the most hostile of all the Hyderabad Chiefs is Meer Nusseer Khan, who is acting under her counsels; that he has frequently urged Noor Mahomed Khan to eject Colonel Pottinger, and not visited him privately for thirteen days, for not doing so.

9. Agreeably to your letter of the 30th, I send this letter open to Major Todd, and with it my firm conviction that it is both prudent and necessary that the Shah marches down upon this, without a halt, if possible, and on no account delays. I trust Major Todd, after reading this letter, will see the propriety of acting as I suggest, though it be at variance with the instructions issued to him. The Shah's presence on the Sinde frontier will have a great moral effect.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 99.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, Vikkur, December* 15, 1838.

I HAD the honor to report my proceedings up to the 2nd instant by my dispatch of that date.

2. In the 11th paragraph of that communication I stated that I was to have an interview with the Ameers previous to my departure from Hyderabad for this place.

3. I accordingly visited their Highnesses on the afternoon of the 3rd, and our conference lasted for upwards of three hours. This was caused in a chief measure, by Noor Mahomed Khan alone receiving me; after he had exhausted his arguments on me, Nusseer Khan came to go over the same ground, and he was followed in a similar manner by Meer Mahomed.

4. Noor Mahomed Khan began with his usual effrontery to accuse me of unfriendliness, and to ask what had caused such a change in my feelings towards him. I told him that the unfriendliness had all been on his side, quoted a variety of instances to demonstrate this assertion, and challenged him (and latterly the whole party), over and over again, to show that, during my intercourse with Sinde for a period of fourteen years, the smallest deviation had occcured in what I had said, written, or agreed to on behalf of the British Government. I pressed him (and the party) on this point, and obliged the whole of them repeatedly to confess they could not do so.

5. They next reverted to their old stand, they had done every thing the Governor-General required of them, which I most explicitly denied, and pointed out amongst others, the recent conduct of the Hakim of Vikkur (Gholam Shah), as disproving their words; they shuffled out of that matter the best way they could, and then renewed their entreaties that I would fix the amount to be paid to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which was the chief topic of the evening; but to all their solicitations on that point, as well as for assurances of their past conduct being overlooked, I had only the replies stated in the paragraphs of my dispatch of the 2nd instant already referred to.

6. On the 4th instant, I obtained positive information that the surmise which I made in my letters of the 27th ultimo, to Major-General Willshire and Lieutenant Eastwick, of Noor Mahomed Khan having secretly ordered no one to serve us, was strictly correct. A Jemadar of 50 camels at Tatta, who had agreed to furnish that number, and had taken an earnest, fled from his house as soon as he heard the troops were come, and on that evening (the 4th) a letter arrived from Nao Mull Seth of Kurachee, to say that he had gone to a considerable expense in engaging 800 or 1000 camels; that the owners had come forward to declare they dare not go to Vikkur without leave; and that he (Nao Mull) had in consequence waited on the Governor (of Kurachee), who had declared he could not allow a single camel to enter our service without special orders from Hyderabad.

7. His Lordship will perhaps recollect that I obtained a purwanna from Noor Mahomed Khan shortly after I came to Hyderabad, in the name of Nao Mull, which not only authorized him to hire camels and sell any bills, but told him that all services he performed for us would be considered done to the Ameer himself, and as he (Nao Mull) had been all along publicly acting on this authority and assurance, I considered this to be a gross case of perfidy, such as was susceptible neither of explanation nor palliation; I, therefore, early on the 5th, sent the Moonshees to Noor Mahomed Khan to tell him so, and to add, that if the camels were not speedily forthcoming, I should suggest to his Excellency Sir John Keane, to send a detachment and take possession of Kurachee.

8. I quitted Hyderabad about noon on that day (the 5th) and joined the Commander-in-chief's camp on the night of the 8th. I was overtaken on the river below Tatta, by Syud Tukkee Shah, who had been sent after me by express, in consequence of my threat about our taking possession of Kurachee. He was the bearer of a message from Noor Mahomed Khan, virtually admitting that he had failed in his promise about camels, but declaring he would now do all I wanted, and had sent off men in every direction to collect and bring to Vikkur some thousands. The Syud went on to remark that Noor Mahomed Khan considered the intimation I had made about Kurachee to be unworthy of my proved friendship; that his and my character were involved in the preservation of amity; this we must write to please the Govornor-General; and, finally, that he (Noor Mahomed) hoped I would address a letter to him which he might show to the other Ameers, who had been upbraiding him for having brought affairs to such a pitch.

9. My reply was as follows:—"That I would give credence to the affirmations regarding the camels when I saw them; that with respect to the Ameers and my friendship, that was on my side entirely at an end; that I should probably hereafter find that I brought disgrace on myself in the eyes of my superiors by the confidence I had placed on Noor Mahomed's word; that the Commander-in-chief had sent an officer off to Cutch to endeavour to hire more camels there, and even to get them from Guzerat; that the army was now detained, and must be so for a length of time, at Vikkur, at a great and useless expense; and that I would not write to Noor Mahomed Khan, but would give a note to the native agent who would show it to the Ameer, to the purport that the only possible way

of atoning for past treachery was to provide carriage and all else required for the troops, without delay."

10. The Syud then began to speak of seizing and punishing Nao Mull, of Kurachee, and the Jemadars of camels at Tatta, for having been the cause of so serious a misunderstanding between the Governments, in which I interrupted him, by warning him that, if anything of the kind was attempted, I would instantly break off all communication with the Hyderabad Government. I said that Noor Mahomed had made liars of his Prime Minister, his eldest son, and of all his principal officers, as well as falsified his own seal by his procedure; that he wanted to throw the blame on others, but that he must not imagine I would allow him to screen his double dealing by punishing those who had done what they could to meet our wishes.

11. On the morning of the 10th I got a letter from the native agent (written the day after my departure), informing me that the Ameers were in great alarm at my having left the capital without settling anything regarding the payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; that they think our plan is to get the army into the heart of the country, and then to make a demand for some enormous sum of money, or a cession in lieu of it; that they had proposed to Meer Sobdar to bring all their guns from Larkhana to Hyderabad, but that he had refused to bear any part of the expense; and that the other three Ameers had dispatched orders for the guns to be removed to Sakot, a district near Sehwan. The native agent ascribed this step to their wish to have the artillery at hand to defend Hyderabad; but as Sakot is ninety miles from the capital, I have little doubt myself that it is a mere pretence to get it placed at a distance from Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, when His Majesty shall reach Shikarpore.

12. On the 11th instant the Commander-in-chief and myself received letters from all the Ameers. Sobdar's was a separate packet, and contained mere friendly expressions. The others, which bore the seals of Noor Mahomed, Nusseer and Meer Mahomed Khan, congratulated his Excellency on his arrival, and assured him that every exertion was being made to collect camels, on which subject they begged that he would set his mind at ease. To me they repeated nearly the same words, and added, that they relied on me to remove any misgivings as to their sincerity and friendly intentions, which might exist in the Commander-in-chief's mind. To these letters answers were prepared on the following day (the 12th), saying that his Excellency and myself required actions and not words, and that we both relied on their Highnesses' sense and foresight to fulfil their promises as quickly as possible. The same observations were verbally communicated to Gholam Shah (the Hakim of Vikkur), the Governor of Tatta (Mohamed Abid), and two of Ismael Shah's sons, who were permitted to visit Sir John Keane on the forenoon of that day.

13. About 11 o'clock at night on the 12th, I was disturbed by a note from Syud Jaffer Shah, a brother of Ismael Shah, to the effect that he had just arrived by an express boat from Hyderabad, charged with "most important messages" from all the Ameers, and to request leave to wait on me at that untimely hour, to which I gave my explicit refusal. I saw him the next morning after breakfast, and he had not one word to say, except to reiterate the contents of their Highnesses' letters. So strictly was this the case, that the only reply I had to offer, was to desire the Moonshee, who had brought my letter for signature, to read it to the Syud, who afterwards paid his respects to the Commander-in-Chief, and started the same night on his return to Hyderabad. I thought at the time that the sole object of his coming here was to see what was going forward, and this conjecture has been since confirmed by letters from Lieutenant Leckie.

14. Seven or eight hundred camels have already arrived, either in camp or in the neighbourhood of it, and about as many more may I think be looked for in another week. These, with the 500 engaged by Captain Melvill in Cutch, and some which his Highness the Rao of that principality has most zealously exerted himself to procure, will, I hope, with the assistance of the river boats, which will carry a vast quantity of heavy stores and supplies, enable this force to move on, and when it once breaks ground, I do not foresee any further cause for detention that is likely to arise.

15. I am sorry to report that the demeanour of Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, has been of late equally insulting and unfriendly. The half of the sea duties of this place belong to him, and as soon as our troops arrived, his

agent, who had no authority, but was stationed here to receive his master's share of the revenue, quitted Vikkur. His manager at Shahbunder (the half of which belongs in the same anomalous manner to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad) refused to allow the 500 camels from Cutch, coming to join the force, to be crossed over the Indus in his (Shere Mahomed's) districts, and we have been obliged to send boats and pioneers from this place to effect the object at a new-made ghaut or ferry. The same manager has stopped on the main river, and still detains, a boat laden with goods, belonging to the same Punjab dealers, who were driven by stress of weather into Mandavie in the month of May, and he has forcibly seized a camel out of a herd of 50, which the Rao of Cutch kindly hired and dispatched after the 500, on the plea that the animal had been recognized as one stolen some years ago from Meerpore. I am endeavouring to get these annoyances arranged (without my taking an ostensible share in the question) through the officers of the Hyderabad Government, four of whom are now here, but I probably shall not be able to do so, and yet I shall be unwilling to hold forth any threats of punishment which it may not be in my power to speedily realize. There can be no doubt, however, that our credit and character throughout Sinde will suffer by such indignities being winked at even for a time, but I have made as light of them as possible by attributing them to Meer Shere Mahomed's aim being to involve Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khan (both of whom he evidently detests) in angry discussions with us at this instant.

16. My intelligence from Hyderabad, up to the 13th instant, leads me to believe that the Ameers there, excepting Sobdar, are now really exerting themselves to obtain carriage for this army, as the only means that offer of getting rid of it. At the same time, they are adopting all sorts of precautions, which evince a total distrust of our designs, and have already assembled a considerable body of their rabble of troops at the capital. They have also written to all the chiefs, whether Beloochees or not, to be in readiness with their quotas in case of necessity; and one of the latter (the Jam of the Jockeyas, a tribe of the aborigines of this province located near Kurachee) has sent his brother to this place to tender his services to the British Government. He was however afraid to visit me openly; and proposed through Nao Mull Seth to do so at night by stealth, which I deemed it right to decline; both because it could not possibly be kept a secret, and because I had no hopes to hold out to him, and no means of protecting him, should he fall under the Ameers' displeasure, and which he would certainly do, were his having secret intercourse with me discovered.

17. I now beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th ultimo; and, after most attentively studying the instructions conveyed by it, I am obliged candidly to confess that I feel myself placed in a situation in which I can indulge no hope of carrying the Governor-General's commands into effect on the principle prescribed. My dispatches, subsequent to that of the 2nd of November will have shown the abject state to which Noor Mahomed Khan has been reduced, by my refusal to treat with him relative to the money payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk; but even when labouring under his worst apprehensions, it will be observed that no such idea has apparently ever crossed his mind, as that our ultimate plan was to station even a company of Sepoys in Sinde; and the moment that intention is announced, I think it will be the signal for a cordial coalition to oppose our arrangements. It will have been further observed, that, although Sobdar has stood neutral in all the angry negotiations, and has announced his determination to do so, that declaration has invariably been accompanied by the proviso, that he is not to be disturbed in his present possessions. Neither he, nor any of the other Ameers, has expressed a heartfelt sentiment that bespeaks his, or their, admission of the justice and necessity of the cause in which we have embarked; and it is to me obvious that their sole object is to save themselves by doing as little as possible to further our views; nor do I believe that any one of them, or the whole collectively, would willingly give 10,000 rupees at this instant to see the Governor-General's measures perfected to the fullest extent of his Lordship's desires.

18. Even had I authority to offer them our guarantee of their territories individually, without their paying one farthing for it, but stipulating that we were at our own expense to keep a force in this province, I think they would reject the proposal; and, therefore, to expect that they will, without coercion, consent to make the smallest pecuniary sacrifice, or to agree to our having a

single regiment in their country, seems to me to be hopeless. They have acted all along, and are now doing so, as though we had put their friendship and forbearance to the last test, by requiring a passage for our troops through their country; and their recent anxiety to get me to fix the sum they are to pay to the Shah, does not, I am satisfied, spring from the sense they entertain of our friendly interposition, but from a dread that His Majesty will, before he advances from Shikarpore, compel them to less reasonable terms than we should prescribe. I am quite convinced that, were they sure the King would quit Sinde without enforcing any demand, they would run all future risks, rather than come down with one rupee, and that it is the present pressure alone that weighs with them.

19. The instructions with which I have been honored seem to me to assume that the Hyderabad Ameers (including Sobdar) will be ready to listen to our proposal for their contributing in part to the expense of a subsidiary force, as well as to its reception. But I think my later dispatches will have demonstrated to his Lordship, that that is not the case; and that, if we ask for anything beyond what we have done already, we must lay our account to having to exact it. In saying this, I by no means intend it to be understood, that I believe the Ameers are inclined to go to war with us. On the contrary, my belief is that they are well aware of our power and perseverance; and it is the dread of both that has made them succumb even to the degree they have done; but we should make no demand of them, especially at this period, that we are not resolved to enforce; and my former letters, particularly that of the 26th ultimo, to the Bombay Government, will have explained that I always have considered the force now here under Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, to be available for the settlement of Sinde. As that, however, does not now appear to be his Lordship's intention, it is my duty to record my humble opinion, that the proposed subsidiary or reserve force is neither, from its strength or composition, equal to that duty; and I shall, therefore, take upon myself to recommend to the Bombay Government to suspend its dispatch (even should it be ready, of which there is no likelihood) until your Lordship has time to consider the matter, and issue final instructions.

20. I am deeply sensible of the vast importance of our establishing ourselves on the Indus; but to attempt that, and fail, would, I respectfully conceive, be far worse than leaving everything as it is for the present. We could easily take military possession of Kurachee, and retain it in spite of the Ameers; but we could not keep open and protect the long line of communication between that place and Shikarpore; and it would be so dangerous an experiment to leave an active enemy in the rear of the Army of the Indus, that it is not even to be thought of.

21. I send this letter under a flying seal, as I have done all others, for the perusal of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes.

I have, &c.

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 100.

Sir Alexander Burnes to Sir Willoughby Cotton.

(Extract.) *Shikarpore, December 17, 1838.*

IT affords me much pleasure to learn, by a letter just received from Government, that you are fairly on the way to join us. I send to you the first letter which I have written concerning supplies, since I heard of your approach. The Chief of Kelat felt a little disposed to be exacting, and I detained Major Leech, and sent his Highness such an epistle that it has awoke him, and I hope all will soon go right.

I am in great hopes that you will have seen my dispatch of the 13th, while in transit to Lord Auckland, announcing the extreme probability of a rupture with Hyderabad.

The Ameers have ordered all their artillery to Hyderabad, and the park has started; they also called out their troops; but they await further orders. I do not see how Sir John Keane can pass them without "giving them a licking," and I have great grounds for thinking he will have to do so.

I have told all which will rouse their highest wrath.* As the Governor-General has determined on fixing a subsidiary force in Sinde permanently, it is exceedingly desirable that troops should reach Sinde quickly; and I have urged the Shah's army to be pushed on, and would, subject to your better judgment, suggest that there be as few delays as possible.

I am negotiating for the fortress of Bukkur, and think I have nailed it; if not, we must just take it. The poor chiefs of Khyrpore are civil, and well inclined towards us.

No. 101.

The Resident in Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Vikkur, December* 19, 1838.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 9th instant, in reply to mine of the 2nd and 3rd, informing me of the increasing difficulties of obtaining carriage, &c., and likewise that you do not expect to have the means, for two months more, of protecting your grain depôts; also stating that you are about to recommence your negotiations at Khyrpore; that you have, as a preliminary step, demanded a written pledge that you are not to be amenable for any evil that may immediately flow from the Khyrpore's acceptance of our terms; that they are to become responsible that no harm shall befall our depôts; that you purpose to contrast the very favourable terms tendered to them, by stating generally what is to befall Hyderabad; and, finally, that, if your proposals are not agreed to, you will consider that you best consult the honor and dignity of the British Government by withdrawing from Sinde, and letting the Khyrpore Chiefs follow the reckless course of their Hyderabad relations, and be treated accordingly.

2. I do not think that you can possibly calculate on obtaining any such pledge as you have required, and I am still more decidedly of opinion, that the disclosure of the Governor-General's plans regarding Lower Sinde will be highly ill-advised and premature, for of course the views will be forthwith conveyed to Hyderabad; and if it does not cause the Ameers themselves to break with us at once, it will at least enable them to make preparations for the best resistance in their power.

3. You must pardon me for observing, that I am struck with the fact that you look in all this only to your own object of settling the petty question of Khyrpore; you forget, apparently, that there are officers of the Sinde Residency, and from this force, both at Hyderabad and Tatta, whose safety may be jeopardized; that the Ameers may have it in their power to induce, by threats and promises, the whole of the camels we have engaged for this force to leave us, an expedient for crippling us, which I always had in view, but which would be of comparatively little moment were we at, or near the capital, to dictate our terms: and to conclude, I think that if you could not carry your measures at Khyrpore without interfering in the affairs of Lower Sinde, in however slight a degree, it was at least your duty to wait till you ascertained my sentiments.

4. What is perhaps done in this cannot be recalled; but it is due to myself to lay all other considerations aside, to put these sentiments on record, because the difficulties with which I am, and have been, struggling, may be tenfold increased by your proceedings.

5. I shall send copies of this letter for the information of his Lordship the Governor-General, and the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

HENRY POTTINGER.

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* Sic in orig.

No. 102.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir, *Camp, Vikkur, December* 20, 1838.

I HAD received within this day or two nearly positive information that large bodies of troops were collecting at, and in the vicinity of, Hyderabad and Meerpore.

2. Yesterday afternoon Zynoolabdeen waited on me to read a note from Noor Mahomed Khan to himself, in which he says, that as the "assemblage of the Beloochees will probably come to my ears, he (Zynoolabdeen) is to wait on me, and explain that this measure is being adopted to prevent Shere Mahomed Khan from committing any act of violence or insult towards our troops or people."

3. I told Zynoolabdeen plainly, that he must not fancy I was to be cajoled with such nonsense; that I was aware that Shere Mahomed Khan had not only recently set the Hyderabad Ameers at defiance, but had forced them within this month to give up a large tract of country; that it was a lame excuse, therefore, to talk of assembling troops at this moment to oppose him; that, on the other hand, I had accounts of money having been sent to him (twelve camel-loads) from Hyderabad since I came down here, and that he (Shere Mahomed) had already committed direct acts of hostility and insult towards the British Government.

4. I have this morning consulted with the Commander-in-Chief; and his Excellency and myself are decidedly of opinion, that whichever of the native regiments intended for the reserve force can be most speedily embarked, should be at once sent off, to assist in guarding the depôts at this place and Tatta, and to keep open the communication until this army has settled matters at Hyderabad. I have accordingly to beg that this step be taken with the least possible delay. The commanding officer will find orders awaiting him on board the guard-ship at the mouth of the river.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

P.S.—Since this letter was written I have had a further communication with Sir John Keane, and in consideration of the decidedly hostile disposition of the Ameers, and the important fact (suggested by Lieutenant Carless, of the Indian navy) that not more than six weeks of fine weather can be reckoned on at the mouths of the river; his Excellency and myself desire to record our opinion, that the remainder of the reserve force should be dispatched as quickly as possible, with three, or even four, months' provision; and ordered to proceed to and land at Kurachee. I will further consult his Excellency, and frame in a day or two a letter of instructions for Colonel Valiant, of Her Majesty's 40th Foot, which I shall transmit, viâ Bhooj, through Captain Melvill, to that officer, and communicate copies for the information of the Governor-General and the Bombay Government.

I have no doubt that the Ameers will consider these arrangements tantamount to a declaration of war on our part; but they have, I conceive, left me no alternative. It is impossible that, even supposing they mean to allow this force to pass quietly through their country, we could leave Sinde on its present footing, in rear of the army of Affghanistan; and the inclosure No. 264 to my letter No. 266, will show that they (the Ameers) are probably by this time aware of our intentions, through Sir Alexander Burnes' communications with the Khyrpore Chiefs.

No. 103.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, Vikkur, December* 21, 1838.

MY dispatch of the 15th instant, and the inclosures to my letter of the 18th, brought my proceedings up to the latter date.

I have now the honor to submit, for the information of the Governor-General of India, a copy of a letter which I addressed yesterday to the Secretary to the Government at Bombay, calling for the subsidiary or reserve force with the least possible delay.

I presume that his Lordship will have been prepared for my taking this step by the intelligence conveyed in Sir Alexander Burnes' letter to your address of the 13th instant, which reached me late this evening.

I entirely concur with Sir Alexander Burnes in the advantage of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk's presence in Sinde, and I hope that His Majesty will reach Shikarpore without delay.

One half of this force is to move on the 24th, and will reach Tatta in four marches. The other half will follow in two days.

The greatest difficulty I find, and one in which I am utterly unable to see my way at this instant, is the want of money. I have got above twenty-five lacs of bullion, and yet am unable to raise 1,000 rupees at this place and Tatta together. His Lordship will understand the state of the case fully, when I say, that just now the most feasible expedient appears to be to send the stamps of the Hyderabad rupees to Bombay, and have ten or fifteen lacs of rupees coined there of that standard and sent up for the use of this force.

It is my present intention to await the receipt of further instructions from the Governor-General of India, and, should they not reach me before I am required to act, to do so on the principle laid down in my dispatch of the 23rd ultimo, with the view under all circumstances of establishing our supremacy in Sinde. The Ameers will still have the option of avoiding war by acceding to our demands: and, if they refuse, I conceive we must settle this province to our entire satisfaction, before we can move into Affghanistan.

In addition to all demands that I may be instructed to make, I think of stipulating that either the Company's rupees, or one of equal standard, coined in Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk's name, shall be proclaimed as a legal tender throughout Sinde, and likewise that the Ameers shall provide and make over to us 5,000 camels, of which 4,000 would go with the army in advance, and 1,000 be kept here for the service of the subsidiary force.

I have instructed Lieutenant Leckie to remain at Hyderabad as long as he is not threatened in any way by the rabble now collected and collecting there, or that he sees no cause to apprehend that he and the other gentlemen of the Residency and their suites are in any sort of personal danger; but in any one of these three cases I have desired him to intimate, as from himself, his intention to join the army at Tatta, and to do so without delay. I do not believe that Noor Mahomed Khan or the other Ameers will dare to molest or detain them; but if I find that anything of the sort is apprehended, I shall intimate to the Ameers individually that they will be held personally responsible for the safety not only of the British officers, but of every follower of this Residency now at the capital.

I trust that his Lordship will forgive the brevity of this letter, which I write at 11 o'clock at night, to dispatch by express to Lieutenant Leckie, who will forward it on to Sir A. Burnes.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 104.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, December* 25, 1838.

IT is with the highest satisfaction that I inform the Governor-General of India that the fortress of Bukkur has been ceded to the British Government on the terms proposed, and that Meer Roostum Khan has placed himself and his country under its protection.

2. I have only time at present to report this gratifying intelligence, and shall in the course of to-day or to-morrow prepare the treaties for transmission to you, but the Ameer has signed and sealed them.

3. I have had a task of delicacy, difficulty, and even danger, but Meer Roostum Khan has shewn in the day of trial what he professed at all times, that he was the sincere and devoted friend of the British nation.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 105.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, December* 25, 1838.

I HAD the honor this morning to convey to you, for the information of the Governor-General of India, the successful termination of my negotiations with the Khyrpore State, ending in the cession of Bukkur on his Lordship's own terms, and in Northern Sinde being henceforward dependent on the British nation.

2. I now do myself the honor to inclose the Treaty for his Lordship's ratification, and to state in detail, though as briefly as possible, the discussions which terminated in the instrument now inclosed. To one copy I have appended notes, a clearer method of shewing the motives that have actuated this chief and myself.

3. After the clear and definite instructions of the Governor-General, regarding the nature of the punishment to be meted out to the Hyderabad Ameers, I came to the conclusion that those demands would have been long since made, but whether made or not, it seemed incumbent on me to tender his Lordship's terms to this State before we invaded it, alike to preserve our credit and prevent future misunderstanding.

4. But this resolution was easier formed than executed; there was a faction at Khyrpore headed by Meer Moobaruck Khan, and the demands made were of a nature to arm that chief with the means of working on Meer Roostum Khan's fears, and taunting him with the fruits which our friendship had brought forth.

5. I therefore drafted the Treaty as it now stands, making a separate article regarding the cession of Bukkur, but binding the chief to approve all our defensive preperations; I did this to give Meer Roostum Khan an opportunity of concealing our requests, if he feared his relatives, till we could support him in his resolution to give us Bukkur, supposing he so intended it.

6. I sent my Moonshee, Mohun Lal, with the Treaty, signed and sealed, to Khyrpore, on the 11th instant, first directing him to give the document to the Minister, and then wait on the chief, if invited; after a delay of four days it appeared that all would end well, but the Minister was then directed to wait upon me at Shikarpore, and he came full of grief and dismay at the demands made, and even stated that he had not shewn the separate Article to Meer Roostum Khan, from downright shame.

7. Supposing such a statement to have been true, which I do not believe, it was evident that the Ameer must be made acquainted forthwith with our terms, and I deputed my Moonshee to Khyrpore to deliver the Treaty face to face, to tell his Highness that the Treaty and the separate Article were one, and that the separation entirely arose from an anxiety on my part to place it out of men's power to vex him, and that the cession of Bukkur was for his good, as well as ours.

8. The consternation caused by this public declaration was very great,—the Ameer first offered another fort in its stead, next to find security that our treasure and munitions were protected, but the Moonshee, as instructed, replied to all, that nothing but the unqualified cession of the fortress of Bukkur during the war would satisfy me. He said it was the heart of his country—his honour was centred in keeping it—his family and children could have no confidence, if it were given up, and that if I came to Khyrpore he could speak in person to me many things; to this I had instructed the Moonshee to say, that it was impossible till he signed the Treaty, as I asked a plain question and wanted a plain answer.

9. Meer Roostum Khan was now attacked by his relatives, and Meer Moobaruck Khan urged him strongly to resist us; the worthy old man however

addressed to me the annexed most feeling letter. To this, I replied; but before my answer reached Khyrpore, his Highness had sealed the Treaty.

10. Yesterday morning, the Ameer sent for the Moonshee, told him that I had been the best and first friend of the Khyrpore State; that I had made an unexpected demand upon him; that his name was irrecoverably gone, if Lord Auckland did not seize upon Kurachee or some other place from the Hyderabad family, who, as our enemies, now triumphed, while he, as our dearest friend, was thus depressed. If they were let off, his only resource was to commit suicide. With this, and saying Bismilla, (in the name of God,) he sealed the Treaty and the separate Article, before Ali Moorad Khan, Meer Zungee, Suleiman Abdar, and about twenty other people.

11. It will be observed that the Treaty is made out in the name of Meer Roostum Khan alone, which appeared to me eminently desirable, but which I did not accomplish without opposition and objection, which were, however, removed by my agreeing to give a document similar in import to what his Lordship had already given at Hyderabad to the junior Ameers; to this I agreed, with the exception of Meer Moobaruck Khan, whose open and undisguised hostility, prevents my granting such a favor, without his Lordship's orders, but on this subject, I shall address you from Khyrpore, where I am now proceeding.

12. It only remains for me to express my congratulations on this happy termination of affairs in Northern Sinde, and respectfully to request that no delay may take place in sending the ratified Treaty, and that with it I may receive a document under his Lordship's hand and seal, calling for the fortress of Bukkur, that we may turn that stronghold to our use in the important operations which now engage Government. It would not be delicate or prudent to seek to hoist in it the British standard, till I am honored with his Lordship's ratification of the Treaty.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 106.

Treaty with the Khyrpore State, with Notes of Explanation, by Sir A. Burnes.

December 25, 1838.

THIS Article requires no comment, being in the treaty with Bhawul Khan, sent for my guidance.

ARTICLE I. There shall be perpetual friendship, alliance, and unity of interests, between the Honorable East India Company and Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, and his heirs and successors, from generation to generation, and the friends and enemies of one party shall be the friends and enemies of both.

As in Bhawul Khan's.

Article II. The British Government engages to protect the principality and territory of Khyrpore.

As in Bhawul Khan's.

Article III. Meer Roostum Khan, and his heirs and successors, will act in subordinate cooperation with the British Government, and acknowledge its supremacy, and not have any connexion with any other Chiefs and States.

As in Bhawul Khan's.

Article IV. The Ameer, and his heirs and successors, will not enter into negotiation with any Chief or State, without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government, but the usual

amicable correspondence with friends and relatives shall continue.

As in Bhawul Khan's.

Article V. The Ameer, and his heirs and successors, will not commit aggressions on any one. If, by accident, any dispute arise with any one the settlement of it shall be submitted to the arbitration and award of the British Government.

This Article differs materially from the others, and binds the Ameer to all we wish, but in general terms.

The mention of not coveting a dam or drain is merely a repetition of what is already written in the Hyderabad Treaty, which the Governor-General *mutatis mutandis*, agreed to give to Khyrpore.

Article VI. The Ameer will furnish troops according to his means, at the requisition of the British Government, and render it all and every necessary aid and assistance throughout his territory during the continuance of war, and approve of all the defensive preparations which it may make, while the peace and security of the countries on the other side of the Indus may be threatened. But the British Government will not covet a dam or drain of the territories enjoyed by his Highness and his heirs, nor the fortresses on this bank or that bank of the River Indus.

The Persian words, left to explain this last clause, are their own, and not mine.

This is the same as in Bhawul Khan's Treaty, excepting the mention of our not listening to the complaints of the Ameer's subjects, which is clearly implied in that Treaty; without this mention, Roostum Khan declared he could not manage his country, and he is right, as appears to me.

Article VII. The Ameer and his heirs and successors shall be absolute rulers of their country, and the British jurisdiction shall not be introduced into that principality, nor will any of the Beloochees, servants, dependents, relatives, or subjects of the Ameer be listened to, should they complain against the said Ameer.

In this Article I have fulfilled his Lordship's instructions to the letter, and I might have easily abolished the toll for ever, but this would be a hazardous step till we substitute our own influence in Sinde. The toll binds the Ameer to protect property; the release from it would remove it from his shoulders.

Article VIII. In order to improve, by every means possible, the growing intercourse by the River Indus, Meer Roostum Khan promises all co-operation with the other Powers in any measures which may be hereafter thought necessary for extending and facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus.

A mere copy of the Article in the Hyderabad Treaty.

Article IX. In order to further secure the relations of amity and peace, which have so long subsisted between the Khyrpore State and the British Government, it is agreed that an accredited British Minister shall reside at the Court of Khyrpore, and that the Ameer shall also be at liberty to depute an Agent to reside at the Court of the British Government, and the British Minister shall be empowered to change his ordinary place of residence, as may from time to time seem expedient, and be attended by such an escort as may be deemed suitable by his Government.

As in Bhawul Khan's.

Article X. This Treaty of nine Articles having been concluded, and signed and sealed by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir A. Burnes, Knight, Envoy on the part of the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, and Meer Roostum Khan, on the part of Himself, Chief of Khyrpore, the ratification by the Right Honorable the Governor-General, shall be exchanged within forty-five days from the present date.

Done at Khyrpore, this 24th day of December, 1838, corresponding with the 6th day of Shawul, A. H. 1254.

N.B. The separate Article on surrendering Bukkur is not added, as it requires no comment.

A. BURNES.

No. 107.

Meer Roostum Khan, Chief of Khyrpore, to Sir A. Burnes.—(Received at Shikarpore, December 23, 1838.)

MOONSHEE MOHUN LAL presented your friendly letter and informed me of the messages which were entrusted to him. I now, therefore, bring to your notice, that it is known to you, as well as to all the world, that, from the time of our first interview to the present moment, I have exerted my best endeavours to increase our mutual friendship, and have not withheld my life, my property, or my country from you. Now Moonshee Mohun Lal has been intrusted to deliver this distress to me; very well, I thank God that you are wise and sensible enough to know that the honor of sincere friends is alike both in times of prosperity and adversity. I entertain great hopes.

There are a few subjects of great importance which require a personal interview, therefore I hope you will oblige me, according to your wonted favours, and come over to Khyrpore, and after enjoying a meeting of two hours, can return to Shikarpore. During your stay here the subjects of both parties will take a lustre,* in a favourable manner, because it is a common proverb that "a kiss cannot be obtained by message," and another that " Love does not only rise from seeing, but also in conversation."

My friend, God knows, and you are also aware, that up to the present time, I have been very studious in the way of friendship and sincerity, and accordingly I will not refuse your request and orders in future, and all your wishes will be attained on our interview. Please leave off all other business and come tomorrow soon, by which you will oblige me.

No. 108.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Khyrpore, December* 28, 1838.

ON the 25th instant, I had the honor to transmit, for the information and ratification of the Governor-General of India, the Treaty concluded between the British Government and Meer Roostum Khan.

2. I yesterday morning repaired to this place from Shikarpore, to communicate personally with Meer Roostum Khan, to congratulate him on the prudent step which he had taken, and to give to his Highness all the confidence which I could, in the present distracted state of affairs in this country.

3. I was received by Meer Roostum Khan with great consideration, and he expressed, in warm and feeling language, his determination of submission and obedience to the British Government. His Highness Meer Moobaruck Khan was also present, and his conduct I can only characterize as that of slavish obsequiousness. He threw his loongee before me (a sign of great humility), and

* Sic in orige

implored the favour of the Governor-General. Meer Roostum Khan then asked me to prepare the separate agreement for the junior Ameers, in the same manner as his Lordship had granted at Hyderabad; to which I assented, saying that such was of course part of the Governor-General's intentions, and that we could settle the point next day.

4. After this interview, the eldest son of Meer Moobaruck Khan waited upon me, along with the Minister; the object of the visit being to do away as far as possible the impression they knew me to have imbibed, of Meer Moobaruck Khan's proceedings. I however told the son, that I consider his father's whole conduct so wanting in cordiality, that I did not feel myself authorized to grant any separate agreement to him, for if I did, I doubted if the Governor-General would ratify it. The announcement caused much consternation, and prolonged the interview to about two hours. The son appealed to me if Meer Moobaruck's people had not been actively engaged in making the road through Sinde, if his brother were not now in the quarter by which the army was to march, attending to all my requisitions. I replied, I could not change my sentiments.

5. This morning I visited Meer Roostum Khan, and found him with his younger brother, Ali Moorad Khan, but that Meer Moobaruck was absent. The Ameer stated at full length his declarations of devotion. He said, that in giving up Bukkur to the British, he had had to encounter great disgrace; that his tribe and his family were alike opposed to it; but that he was an old man, with but a few years to live, and it was to save his children and his tribe from ruin that he had years ago resolved on allying himself to us; that other invaders of India might be resisted, but if one of our armies were swept away, we could send another, and that such power induced him alike to fear and rely upon us; that he was henceforward the submissive and obedient servant of the British, and hoped I would avert all injury befalling him, and tell him, without hesitation, what he could do to please us. The answer to such a declaration was plain—to give us orders for supplies, and place all the country, as far as he could, at our command; and he has done so, as far as he can.

6. The agreements being now called for, I produced those for Ali Moorad Khan and Meer Mahomed, and delivered them to Roostum Khan, saying that they would only be granted, if he desired it. It was the earnest wish of his heart, he said. But where is the agreement for Meer Moobaruck Khan? I here stated to his Highness my reasons for withholding such a document; that his brother had sowed all the doubts which had caused so much delay and vexation; that Colonel Pottinger, in his correspondence, had repeatedly stated the encouragement given to the Hyderabad Ameers by Moobaruck Khan's line of procedure; that I did not see how I could grant an agreement to place such a person under our protection; and finally, if I did grant it, that I did not think the Governor-General would ratify it.

7. Meer Roostum Khan seemed both concerned and alarmed at the statement; said that no sooner had the Khyrpore Ameers become our dependents, than we sought to divide them, by making one as a friend and another as an enemy; that the Ameers of Hyderabad were gained, and did not adhere to truth in their statements about Moobaruck Khan, who acted entirely subordinate to him, and that it would be a calamity of the worst nature if I persisted in excluding Moobaruck Khan. I felt some difficulty in arguing this point, face to face with the Ameer, but finally said that power had gone from me; that Colonel Pottinger's reports carried great weight; that I had first come to Khyrpore with the intention of befriending all, but that the foe and the friend must be separated; that certainly I had no orders from the Governor-General to exclude Meer Moobaruck Khan, but my judgment pronounced him to have deeply erred, and I would desire to refer it to his Lordship.

8. The Ameer now said that it would not be difficult to prove to Colonel Pottinger that the Hyderabad Ameers had misrepresented Meer Moobaruck Khan; that I had admitted the Governor-General had not excluded him, and that therefore I should give the agreement, and above all, as Meer Moobaruck Khan was his brother. There was no resisting such appeal, and I agreed to give the papers, under this distinct declaration, that I was in no way to blame if his Lordship did not ratify it, that I could not promise it would be ratified; and on these terms I sent the document to Meer Roostum Khan, after the audience terminated. The three agreements are inclosed, in Persian and translation, for his Lordship's information.

9. My opinions are firm, that this member of the Khyrpore family should be mulcted; and as much will depend upon what Colonel Pottinger's impressions are, of the evils which he thinks Meer Moobaruck has assisted in bringing about at Hyderabad, I would suggest that his Lordship await the Resident's sentiments on Meer Moobaruck Khan, before coming to a decision. I shall of course send a copy of this dispatch to Colonel Pottinger.

10. The other two Ameers, Ali Moorad and Meer Mahomed, are every way deserving of this favour. As far as Sindeans can assist, they have been aiding us with supplies, and have been ready and willing with their purwannas, and in both their estates our agents are actively engaged in making purchases of grain and camels. Meer Mahomed, as I mentioned in a former dispatch, is the son of Meer Roostum's elder brother. He made a curious tender to me in secret, before the treaty was concluded, to give up six annas in the rupee on his property, the income from which, however, is not upwards of a lac of rupees. This I of course declined, and prescribed in its stead his procuring supplies for the army; and his agent has already brought about 10,000 rupees' worth to Lieutenant Scott, and agrees to furnish to the value of about 40,000 rupees further, the money being our own; but such I consider good service.

11. Meer Roostum Khan, before I quitted Khyrpore, requested me to state to him how he should receive the Shah, as he was now our dependent, and ready to be guided by us. I said that he should give His Majesty on his march all the supplies which he possibly could command. This he said he had arranged, but he wished my counsel on the sum of money to be presented. I said that he should give double to what he had formerly done, to which he at once agreed. He then ordered his Minister to go to the frontier to meet His Majesty; and his uncle, Meer Zungee, to proceed and welcome the King at Gotkee.

12. When I informed Meer Roostum Khan of the approach of Sir Henry Fane, he expressed great satisfaction, and said he would proceed to Roree on his arrival, that he might show every mark of respect to a person of his Excellency's high rank, and contribute, as far as he could, to the comfort of his voyage and passage through Sinde.

I have, &c.,
ALEX. BURNES.

P. S.—*Azeezpore Ferry, December* 31, 1838.—As I am dispatching this letter, I receive yours of the 13th instant from Umritsir, on the subject of securing some other place instead of Bukkur. I beg to correct any error in my own communications that may have led his Lordship to the belief that this place is not well adapted for a depôt. I look upon it as the most important military station on the Indus, and in this I am joined by Major Leech who has examined it professionally. It is quite a mistake to imagine it difficult of access, and that there is but one landing-place. There are two gates, and the ferry boats can track all round the island. For three months during the swell, the water certainly runs with great velocity, but now the Indus is here as unruffled as a pond. If the Indus is bridged at Bukkur, there will, however, be considerable inconvenience from there being no encamping ground near the bridge on the Roree side, for it is quite a mistake to consider the Bukkur ferry as the great thoroughfare—that is always some miles above or below the fort,—from the difficulty of access, on the south side by a dense group of date trees, and on the north by flinty hillocks.

No. 109.

Agreement with Meer Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore.

WHEREAS treaties of firm friendship and sincere amity have long been established between the Government of the East India Company and that of Khyrpore in Sinde; at the present time, agreeably to the request and desire of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, and for the satisfaction of his Highness Meer Moobaruck Khan Talpoor, the following additional agreement has been made through the agency of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander

Burnes, Knight, Envoy, on the part of the Governor-General, in virtue of full powers vested in him by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, &c., &c., &c.

The East India Company hereby agrees never to covet one rea of the revenue of the share of Sinde in possession of Meer Moobaruck Khan, nor to interfere in its internal management.

The said Company further agrees to preserve the same friendly relation towards the said Meer Moobaruck Khan and his descendants, that it does towards Meer Roostum Khan, in conformity with the terms of the treaty now made iwth his Highness Meer Roostum Khan.

Done at Khyrpore, this 28th day of December, 1838, corresponding with the 11th day of Shawul, 1254, A.H.

A. BURNES.

No. 110.

Agreement with Meer Mahomed Khan of Khyrpore.

WHEREAS treaties of firm friendship and sincere amity have long been established between the Government of the East India Company and that of Khyrpore in Sinde; at the present time, agreeably to the request and desire of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, and for the satisfaction of his Highness Meer Mahomed Khan Talpoor, the following additional agreement has been made through the agency of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes, Knight, Envoy, on the part of the Governor-General, in virtue of full powers vested in him by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, &c., &c., &c.

The East India Company hereby agrees never to covet one rea of the revenue of the share of Sinde in possession of Meer Mahomed Khan, nor to interfere in its internal management.

The said Company further agrees to preserve the same friendly relation towards the said Meer Mahomed Khan, and his descendants, that it does towards Meer Roostum Khan, in conformity with the terms of the Treaty now made with his Highness Meer Roostum Khan.

Done at Khyrpore, this 28th day of December 1838, corresponding with 11th day of Shawul 1254, A.H.

A. BURNES.

No. 111.

Agreement with Meer Ali Moorad Khan of Khyrpore.

WHEREAS treaties of firm friendship and sincere amity have long been established between the Government of the East India Company and that of Khyrpore in Sinde; at the present time, agreeably to the request and desire of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, and for the satisfaction of his Highness Meer Ali Moorad Khan Talpoor, the following additional agreement has been made through the agency of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes, Knight, Envoy on the part of the Governor-General, in virtue of full powers vested in him by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, &c., &c., &c.

The East India Company hereby agrees never to covet one rea of the revenue of the share of Sinde in possession of Meer Ali Moorad Khan, nor to interfere in its internal management.

The said Company further agrees to preserve the same friendly relation toward the said Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and his descendants, that it does towards Meer Roostum Khan, in conformity with the terms of the Treaty now made with his Highness Meer Roostum Khan.

Done at Khyrpore, this 28th day of December, corresponding with the 11th day of Shawul 1254, A.H.

A. BURNES.

No. 112.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, at Dahooree, December* 31, 1838.

WITH reference to the former instructions conveyed to you, and to that part of your recent correspondence which manifests the anxiety of the Ameers to have the contribution fixed, which they are to pay His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, I am now desired to communicate to you the following instructions:—

It is very evident that the Ameers are sensible of the advantages which might accrue to them by satisfying the demands of Shah Shooja, and they may hope by doing so, at once to conciliate the British Government, to obtain pardon for their offences, and to secure themselves from all future claim to tribute on the part of His Majesty; and the Governor-General would desire to have this question speedily settled, especially with reference to the approaching advance of the British troops into Affghanistan.

Mr. Macnaghten cannot be expected to reach Shikarpore before the end of January, and it is of the utmost importance that our army should have surmounted the Bolan Pass before April. The interval, therefore, will leave but little time for negotiation with the Ameers, who, with their characteristic duplicity, and knowing the value of time to us, may desire to procrastinate.

The principal Ameers of Sinde have, by their treacherous and hostile conduct, exposed themselves to any act of retribution upon which the British Government may determine; but the measures in progress on the side of Affghanistan, must be held to be in importance paramount to every other consideration; and the Governor-General would abate much from his other demands, however just, and however strong he may be to enforce them, if he could thereby ensure the prompt and efficient advance of the Bombay troops, and secure their continued communication with the sea, and at the same time obtain from the Ameers a payment, such as would amply satisfy the claims of Shah Shooja.

Under these circumstances, the Governor-General desires me to state, that you are authorized, if the subject should be still open, to apprise the Ameers of your having received the commands of the Governor-General to recommend to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, through the Envoy at his Court, his acceptance of their offer in full of all demands, provided that a sum on this account is paid down into your Treasury within a certain number of days to be fixed by you from the date of their offer; and this sum should, in the opinion of his Lordship, amount to thirty lacs, but on no account can be reduced so that the clear payment shall be less than twenty lacs, a deduction from the first amount being made at your discretion, for the share to be contributed by the Khyrpore Ameer, which sum you will of course fix on as moderate a scale as possible, with reference to the good conduct evinced by Meer Roostum since the commencement of our operations, as you will, if it should be in your power, in the general distribution of payment, throw the larger proportion upon those of the Ameers, whose conduct has been least friendly.

Beyond the payment of this sum, you will consider facilities heartily and actively given to the British force on its advance, as the first means by which the principal Ameers may redeem any portion of the favour which they have forfeited. But they will understand at the same time, that such has been the character of their measures as to render it absolutely necessary that military posts be occupied in their country, for the safe maintenance of communication between the army and the sea, and for the easy return of the British force, when all operations shall be concluded, to the Presidency of Bombay; and that by their proceedings during the present expedition, will the ultimate conduct of the British Government towards them be regulated. They may be told that the flagrant offensiveness of their conduct has excited the resentment of the Governor-General. His Lordship has already stated to you his unwillingness to entertain any proposition for territorial acquisition; but, for further measures, you will look, according to your previous instructions, to the relief of the navigation of the Indus from all toll, the maintenance of a local British force,

and the separate independence of each chief, as amongst those the consideration and accomplishment of which are most to be desired.

The interval before the season of active operations is, as has already been said, too short to allow of delays and reference; and his Lordship, therefore, feels it to be just and fitting to place the most ample discretion in your hands, in order that you may be enabled to meet his views for the early presence of the Bombay division, under the command of Sir John Keane, at Shikarpore.

Possessed, as you are, of the Governor-General's general views, his Lordship would wish you to act freely as you may, in the near opportunities of local knowledge, judge best, and you may be confident of his Lordship's disposition to extend his approbation and support to such measures as, in the exigency of circumstances, you may find it prudent to adopt.

You will observe from the above instructions, that the Governor-General attaches a degree of importance, above all other considerations, to the easy and unopposed advance of Sir John Keane's force through the Sinde territories. Upon this it seems now obvious, with reference to the advanced state of the season, and the reports received of the difficulties experienced, with even the nominal assistance of the Ameers, in completing the equipments of the force in question, must mainly depend the success of the grand enterprise which the British Government has undertaken, of reinstating Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk on the throne of his ancestors. If, however, you should, previously to the receipt of this letter, have adopted more decided measures conformably with the instructions already conveyed to you, I am desired to state that you may rely on the steady support of his Lordship. It must be admitted that the terms which his Lordship is at present willing to impose for the facile attainment of the main object of our operations, are quite inadequate to our just demands; and that our ally Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk may be especially dissatisfied with the low amount of commutation fixed, as regards his claims of sovereignty; but, should you not have been enabled to obtain better terms, His Majesty must be satisfied to forego his claims in this particular when the necessity of the sacrifice is fully laid before him.

There is one point on which his Lordship's opinion is fully made up, and that is the expediency of the advance of the reserved force into Sinde, while the army of Sir John Keane is on the spot to awe the Ameers into providing facilities for their movement, an advantage, the necessity of which is too obvious to be overlooked, with reference to our recent experience of the treacherous and hostile conduct of those chiefs. For the present, the ultimate destination of the force in reserve need not be specified; but his Lordship trusts, that you will have lost no time in summoning it to Kurachee.

I have, &c.

H. TORRENS.

No. 113.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

Camp, at Dahooree, December 31, 1838.

THE dispatches herewith forwarded are the most important of those recently addressed to the Resident in Sinde, with abstracts of the letters to which these are replies.

2. I have deemed it expedient to keep you acquainted with the progress of affairs in that territory, although their aspect is confused and doubtful as well as unfavourable, being aware of the anxiety with which you will look for any accounts direct from me, after learning, as you will doubtless do from the Bombay Government by this opportunity, that the force under Sir John Keane had safely landed in the country of the Ameers.

3. The instructions given to the Resident have been necessarily drawn, so as to allow him that degree of latitude in executing them, which, under the shifting policy of the recusant Ameers, and the uncertain position in which he is placed, it would have been as impossible, as impolitic, to have refused him.

4. The appearance of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, with his force on the frontiers of Sinde, is likely to produce beneficial effects on the policy of the refractory Ameers, should the presence of Sir John Keane's army not have

induced them to accede to the reasonable proposals offered to them. His Majesty is hastening towards Shikarpore, and, by the latest accounts, had passed the town of Bhawulpore.

4. The supporting force under Sir Willoughby Cotton was then (December 24th) not more than six marches in the rear of the Shah, all arms being in the highest state of efficiency.

I have, &c.,
AUCKLAND.

No. 114.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir, *Camp, Tatta, January* 6, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to inclose a highly important dispatch which has this day reached me by express from Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes.

2. Under the altered aspect of affairs in Affghanistan, I consider it in an additional degree fortunate that this force has not advanced beyond this place, and that I delayed opening my negotiations until we were before the capital, as I shall now be prepared to act on any fresh instructions which the Governor-General of India may see fit to issue to me.

3. I am not aware of any alteration that I can suggest in my letter of the 4th instant on the subject of the reserve force; but, should any orders come from the Governor-General that will enable me to dispense with a portion of it, they shall be instantly acted on, as I am well aware that troops may be urgently required in India.

4. So far as it is possible to form an opinion on the information I now possess, my idea is, that we must settle Sinde to our entire satisfaction, even should the Ameers force us to subjugate it, before we look beyond it.

5. Lieutenant Leckie writes me on the 3rd instant that the Ameers dread our taking possession of Shikarpore, and are determined to oppose us if we do so, or if we attempt to leave any troops in this province. Noor Mahomed Khan had that day told the native agent that he had no objection to 100 men staying at Tatta to guard the money and provisions; but the intelligence from Herat and Kelat had not then reached Hyderabad, and it will probably induce them to retract even this concession.

6. In a short letter of the 30th ultimo, Sir A. Burnes intimates that he was proceeding from Khyrpore (where he had gone about the Treaty) to the frontier of Sinde, I presume, to meet Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk and his army.

7. I will direct the senior officer of the Indian navy at the mouths of the Indus, to keep a vessel of some kind or other in constant readiness to sail with dispatches at a moment's notice for the Presidency.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 115.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, Tatta, January* 6, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward for the information of the Governor-General of India, a copy of my letter of this date, to the Political Secretary to the Government at Bombay.

2. Since it was written, I have been honored by the receipt of your letter of the 13th ultimo; my despatches (and some official letters to his Lordship's private secretary) of dates subsequent to the 23rd of November, will have shewn the Governor-General that the Ameers of Hyderabad are already resolved on not allowing us to keep a force on any terms in this province, and I have not the smallest doubt but the reserve force will be opposed in its debarkation at Kurachee, even should the news from Herat not cause the Ameers to break with us before it arrives.

3. Certain as I am of this resolution, I shall adhere to my opinion (in which the Commander-in-Chief concurs) that it is my wisest course to refrain

from making any disclosure of his Lordship's instructions now before me, in the hope that, previous to this force advancing to Hyderabad, I may receive others suited to present circumstances, which appear to me to dictate the necessity of carrying our objects here at all ventures. In the meantime, should the Ameers adopt any hostile step, the British army now in Sinde is, I conceive, ample to support our military supremacy.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 116.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, Bhagoopoorana, January* 10, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch with inclosures under date of the 15th ultimo, reporting the proceedings of the Ameers up to the date of writing.

2. The Governor-General remarks that your dispatch marks a continual inconsistency of outward conduct on the part of the Ameers, and the same professions of humility and friendliness, continued with the same opposition to all your views and wishes, as have been repeatedly brought to the notice of his Lordship; and the Governor-General cannot but approve of the ability and the firmness which you have displayed under circumstances of no common difficulty.

3. It is, however, satisfactory to his Lordship to learn that the Ameers appear to you to be at length exerting themselves to obtain carriage for the army, and this, with the many other circumstances detailed by you, leads the Governor-General to acquiesce at once in the view which you have taken of the instructions dispatched to you on the 19th November last, and to approve of your determination to await a further expression of his Lordship's opinion before acting upon those instructions. His Lordship has indeed long felt, with regard to the affairs of Sinde, that their character has been of so shifting a nature, and your conduct so necessarily depends upon events varying in their bearing and importance, that he has hesitated on many occasions to frame precise instructions for your guidance; and, whilst he would not throw too heavy a responsibility upon you, he would be disposed, in all cases of difficulty and emergency, to rely upon your judgment and nearer opportunities of observation.

4. You will, however, have observed, from the orders issued to you on the 31st ultimo, that his Lordship's views with regard to any arrangement to be immediately pressed upon the Ameers of Sinde, had, simultaneously with those entertained by you, been very considerably modified, and, putting before every other consideration the success of the expedition to Affghanistan, he would be disposed, upon facilities being cordially given to Sir John Keane's army, and upon payment of a reasonable sum to Shah Shooja, to overlook much that might be visited as just cause for offence. But, in this view of your position, his Lordship was yet strongly impressed with the necessity of keeping up a communication, for any reserve which might be left at Shikarpore, with the sea, and was not prepared to suspend the embarkation of the force which had been ordered to Kurachee; for, even though the command of that post might at some seasons of the year be of little importance, and is far removed as a base for military communications, it had seemed to the Governor-General that the proximity of this division might either give strength to Sir John Keane by the facility of its advance to Shikarpore; or, by its presence in the Sinde territories, have a salutary influence upon all the proceedings of the Ameers. You have no doubt stated strong grounds in the small amount of this force, and in the hazard of immediate hostilities as likely to follow the occupation of territory in Sinde, for countermanding the approach of the reserve force. But you will remember that the occupation contemplated has only been temporary, for the purpose of securing the objects of the expedition. For these several reasons, his Lordship must leave it to you and Sir John Keane to decide upon any further order which may be given for the advance or the detention of

the force; for, as he has already observed, he would not do more than suggest arrangements which must be determined upon by you, who are nearer to the scene of action, and whose decision upon this, as upon many other points, must be influenced by the conduct which the Ameers may pursue towards you. They may not do much to atone for the offence which has been given, but you have justly remarked upon the injury which may be sustained to British credit and character by the continual sufferance of indignity, and may possibly find, though his Lordship earnestly hopes that this will not be the case, an insurmountable difficulty in pursuing measures of moderation.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS

No. 117.

The Governor-General to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

Camp, Bhagapoorana, January 10, 1839.

THE judicious mediation of your friend Sir A. Burnes, the highly esteemed and able agent of my Government now with you, has, by the blessing of God, brought about the establishing of our mutual good understanding by treaty, on a firm and lasting basis.

The support afforded to you by the guarantee of the British Government will, I am well assured, prove a source of future strength, and, if it be God's will, of continued prosperity, to your country; and I am glad to acknowledge the advantages which I hope to derive from your alliance and support in the warlike operations which I am about to undertake.

Having entered into a treaty with your Highness in all honesty and good faith, I should be sorry to find any part of the written agreement between us so worded as to leave either your successors or mine under the supposition that we concluded our compact in a spirit, on the one side or the other, of any thing like jealousy or distrust.

The mention, however, of a previous written agreement in every instance as to the temporary character of the occasional occupation of Sinde by the English, is calculated to convey this unpleasant idea.

I have, therefore, struck it out; and, in place of inserting a sentence which casts a doubt on the sincerity of our intentions, I address you this friendly letter as a lasting assurance of the plain meaning and purpose of the words of the separate article, namely, that the British shall avail themselves of the Fort of Bukkur, the citadel of their ally the Meer of Khyrpore, only during actual war and periods of preparing for war, like the present.

I trust that this mode of re-assuring your Highness will have the double effect of setting your mind at ease, and of putting you in possession of a written testimony to my intentions, such as may remain among your records in pledge of the sincerity of the British Government.

I have, &c.,
AUCKLAND.

No. 118.

Treaty between the East India Company and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, January 10*th*, 1839.

ARTICLE I.—There shall be perpetual Friendship, Alliance, and Unity of Interests between the Honorable East India Company and Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, and his Heirs and Successors, from Generation to Generation, and the Friends and Enemies of one Party shall be Friends and Enemies of both.

ARTICLE II.—The British Government engages to protect the Principality and Territory of Khyrpore.

ARTICLE III.—Meer Roostum Khan, and his Heirs and Successors, will act in subordinate Co-operation with the British Government, and acknowledge its Supremacy, and not have any connexion with any other Chiefs and States.

ARTICLE IV.—The Ameer, and his Heirs and Successors, will not enter into Negotiations with any Chief or State without the Knowledge and Sanction of the British Government, but the usual amicable Correspondence with Friends and Relations shall continue.

ARTICLE V.—The Ameer, and his Heirs and Successors, will not commit Aggressions on any one. If by Accident any Dispute arise with any one the Settlement of it shall be submitted to the Arbitration and Award of the British Government.

ARTICLE VI.—The Ameer will furnish Troops according to his Means at the Requisition of the British Government, and render it all and every necessary Aid and Assistance throughout his Territory during the Continuance of War, and approve of all the defensive Preparations which it may make while the Peace and Security of the Countries on the other Side of the Indus may be threatened; but the English Government will not covet a Dam or Drain of the Territories enjoyed by His Highness and his Heirs, nor the Fortresses on this Bank or that Bank of the River Indus.

ARTICLE VII.—The Ameer, and his Heirs and Successors, shall be absolute Rulers of their Country, and the British Jurisdiction shall not be introduced into that Principality; nor will any of the Beloochees, Servants, Dependents, Relatives, or Subjects of the Ameer, be listened to, should they complain against the said Ameer.

ARTICLE VIII.—In order to improve by every Means possible the growing Intercourse by the River Indus, Meer Roostum Khan promises all Co-operation with the other Powers in any Measures which may be hereafter thought necessary for extending and facilitating the Commerce and Navigation of the Indus.

ARTICLE IX.—In order to further secure the Relations of Amity and Peace which have so long subsisted between the Khyrpore State and the British Government, it is agreed that an accredited British Minister shall reside at the Court of Khyrpore, and that the Ameer shall also be at liberty to depute an Agent to reside at the Court of the British Government; and the British Minister shall be empowered to change his ordinary Place of Residence as may from time to time seem expedient, and be attended by such an Escort as may be deemed suitable by his Government.

ARTICLE X.—This Treaty, of Nine Articles, having been concluded, and signed and sealed, by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes, Knight, Envoy, on the Part of the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor General of India, and Meer Roostum Khan, on the Part of Himself, Chief of Khyrpore, the Ratification by the Right Honorable the Governor-General shall be exchanged within Forty-five Days from the present Date.

Done at Khyrpore, this 24th Day of December 1838, corresponding with the 6th Day of Shawul, A.H. 1254.

A BURNES,
Envoy at Khyrpore.

Ratified and confirmed by the Right Honorable the Governor-General of India, Camp at Bhagapoorana, the 10th Day of January 1839.

SEPARATE ARTICLE.—Since the British Government has taken upon itself the Responsibility of protecting the State of Khyrpore from all Enemies now and hereafter, and neither coveted any Portion of its Possessions nor Fortresses on

this Side or that Side of the Indus, it is hereby agreed upon by Meer Roostum Khan, his Heirs and Successors, that if the Governor-General in Time of War should seek to occupy the Fortress of Bukkur as a Depôt for Treasure and Munitions, the Ameer shall not object to it.

This separate Article having been concluded, signed and sealed by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes, Knight, Envoy, on the Part of the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, and Meer Roostum Khan, on the Part of Himself, Chief of Khyrpore, the Ratification by the Right Honorable the Governor-General shall be exchanged within Forty Days from the present Date.

Done at Khyrpore, this 24th Day of December, 1838, corresponding with the 6th Day of Shawul, A. H. 1254.

A. BURNES,
Envoy at Khyrpore.

No. 119.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant Eastwick, Assistant Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, at Tatta, January* 13, 1839.

HAVING determined to depute you to Hyderabad with letters and a Treaty to the Ameers, I proceed to give you some hints that may be useful to you in your intercourse with their Highnesses.

2. You are so fully acquainted with the tenor of all my proceedings and negotiations since I last came to Hyderabad, that I need not revert to them.

3. The first great question is, whether the Ameers will agree, on any terms, to a British force remaining in Sinde? That one point conceded, I see nothing in the Treaty to which they can urge any valid objection.

4. I have determined to excuse Meer Sobdar Khan from the pecuniary demand made on the other Ameers in the IIIrd Article, as a reward for his friendly adherence to our interests. Should the other Ameers object to the sum I have inserted, you may propose to their Highnesses to leave the amount to be determined by his Lordship the Governor-General.

5. Exclusive of the policy of excepting Meer Sobdar Khan from payment, and thereby proving our disinterestedness, I need not point out to you, that by this step we secure a powerful and influential supporter amongst the Beloochee tribes, to whom the IVth Article will no doubt be highly satisfactory.

6. The Vth, VIth, VIIth, and VIIIth Articles, are so highly favourable to the Ameers, both collectively and individually, that I can foresee no remarks that they can make on them. The VIIth in particular, is a vast boon, and even more perhaps than their past conduct merits, but in a Treaty, providing for so close a connexion between the Governments, it appears to me indispensably requisite.

7. With regard to the IXth and Xth Articles, you will tell the Ameers, that our wish is to interfere as little as possible between themselves, their chiefs, and their subjects, and that we never mean to do so, in however trifling a degree, unless we are required by both parties, or the tranquillity of the country obviously requires it. You can on this point (as well as many others, such as the non-introduction of our regulations or adawluts, our never having coined money, and our careful protection of that province) adduce the neighbouring principality of Cutch, in which, although the Resident was for many years the representative of the head of the State (consequent on the Rao's minority) the country went on exactly as if it had been under an independent Ruler, and has been (as their Highnesses well know) raised from a state of extreme poverty and anarchy to one of such comparative wealth and perfect tranquillity, that it is now the envy of all the adjacent petty States.

8. You will tell the Ameers that Sinde forms a natural and integral por-

tion of Hindoostan, that the supremacy of that empire has devolved on us, and that we cannot, and will not, allow any other Power to intermeddle; that it thence follows, that they have now no option left to them of binding their interests irrevocably with ours, and, that if they neglect the opportunity, they may deeply repent it, when it is too late.

9. Their jealous and suspicious feelings will probably induce their Highnesses to ask, supposing they agree to our present terms, what security they have for our not going further hereafter. The reply to this query, or anything of the same tenor, is so obvious, that I need hardly direct your attention to it. It is, the strong instance of our good faith, and wish to preserve our amicable relations, as exemplified in the Treaty you convey to them. They cannot doubt our power to do as we like, and some of them, at least, must feel, that their acts deserve severe retributary measures, instead of which we tender them our renewed friendship and protection on such moderate terms, and accompanied by so many advantages, that their refusal of the former will show to the world their resolution not to meet us half-way, and to oblige us to take by force, what we ask as friends and protectors.

10. To the XIth and XIIth Articles, the observation made in the 6th paragraph of this letter, is equally applicable, as well as the purport of the 8th, and to those I would refer you.

11. The dread which the Ameers have always had of our going to Kurachee will probably induce them to view the provisions of the XIIIth, XIVth, and XVth Articles (and especially the former) with great dislike. You will explain to them that it is a necessary result of our determination to keep a force in Sinde, that we should have the benefit of a communication by that port whenever it suits us; that we know perfectly well they have no means of defending that place against us; that if they could do this by land, our ships would prevent a boat from going out or in, and what would be the use of the port to them were its trade stopped. You may add, that it is very likely few or no stores will ever be sent to Kurachee, because the Indus offers such facility for bringing them to the army, and that we show our anxiety to provide against any cause of future discussion by the XIIIth and XIVth Articles, and our readiness to admit the Ameers' just rights by the XVth.

12. The abolition of the toll on the Indus, as laid down in Article XVI, is a necessary consequence of the Treaty. The amount which their Highnesses have received in any year has not, I am told, amounted to above two, or at most three thousand rupees; therefore "the abolition of the toll," as a pecuniary sacrifice, is not worth being spoken of, whilst that step will induce hundreds of merchants to flock to this country, who will sell their goods, and repay tenfold, by the duties on them, the trifling loss to which I allude.

13. The Ameers will possibly say, that the people of the country will purchase their goods in the Bazaar of our cantonments, and thereby evade the import duties. This is true, but the moment such goods are removed beyond the limits of the cantonment, they will be liable to transit duties, and the increased sale will far more than compensate for the present trifling sea duties. Our cantonments will, in fact, be nothing more than the Bazaar to which the Ameers have already consented in the agreements I concluded with them in December, 1836, and from which they then freely admitted the benefit that would arise to their country, though it may be well questioned, whether they then calculated on its being put to such a speedy practical proof.

14. The XIXth Article is like those alluded to in the 6th and 8th paragraphs of this letter. It will flatter and please the Ameers, but it is one which I consider to be a dead letter, as the presence of the troops of Sinde would be a bar and impediment to any military operations.

15. The XXth, XXIst, and XXIInd Articles do not call for any lengthened observations. My reasons for making a difference between Meer Sobdar Khan and the other Ameers, I have explained in the 4th and 5th paragraphs. The inefficiency of the Treaty of 1832 with Khyrpore to secure the object proposed by it, was caused, it may be truly said, by Noor Mahomed Khan himself. Had Meer Roostum Khan continued to follow, as he promised to do, in subordinate concert to the Hyderabad Government, it is plain he must have broken his faith with us, and he, therefore, wisely resolved to act independently. Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore refused to acknowledge the paramountcy of Hyderabad, by becoming a party to its treaties; but I expect he will now be glad to form one on the principles of the inclosed one;

and I shall be, as I have stated in the XXIInd Article, ready to accede to his application to that effect.

16. The last, or XXIIIrd Article, is, perhaps, the most important one in the Treaty, because it provides for an entire and final separation of the combined interests of the Ameers. Our wish to uphold Noor Mahomed Khan as the head of the State, has failed, in my opinion, through his backsliding and treachery. He has had a fair trial since the death of his father, the late Morad Ali Khan, which took place in October, 1834, and has proved to be unequal to, and unworthy of, the pre-eminence in which we have striven to support him. He may be told, that he has either shewn that the pre-eminence was merely nominal, or that he would not exert it in fulfilment of his solemn engagements; and, in whichever light we view his conduct, the utmost he can now look for is, that his personal rights shall be respected.

17. I have framed the Treaty so that it shall be applicable to each of the four Ameers without the alteration of a single word, and I inclose a translation of a letter which I have addressed to them severally, to which the same remark is pertinent. You will observe from the conclusion of Article I, that all former stipulations, not modified or annulled by the present Treaty, are to be deemed in full force. The agreements given to each of the three junior Ameers, by desire of Noor Mahomed Khan, are virtually annulled by what is now proposed, but I am ready to renew them, omitting those words, and to give Noor Mahomed Khan one himself.

18. On your arrival at Hyderabad, you will forward the letters with which you are charged, to each of the four Ameers, by the hands of the Native Agent, and invite their Highnesses to send their own Moonshees to take copies of the Treaty, which I inclose under my hand and seal. You will observe that I have told their Highnesses in my letter, that the point of debarkation of the reserve force depends on their decision, and as the season is fast drawing to a close, it must be prompt, that the necessary orders may be issued by the Commander-in-chief and myself.

19. Some of the Ameers may, and perhaps will, say, that it is a breach of former engagements, bringing troops into the country without their leave. For an answer to this remark (if made), they may be told they have only themselves to thank for rendering the arrangement imperative. Had they all acted with the good faith and fidelity we have observed towards them, no such measure would have been thought necessary. The Governor-General of India disclosed to them, through me, every secret and motive of his Lordship's plans, and invited them, as friends and near neighbours, to aid in their accomplishment. They hesitated to do so; they proffered their allegiance to Persia, with whom we were then at enmity; they talked of calling in Persian aid against us; they insulted and even threatened to attack our ally, Shah Shooja-ool Moolk; they sent messages, long after I had been at Hyderabad, to the Chiefs of Khyrpore, by their relation Jan Sing, to say they were ready either for peace or war; and they not only failed in all the promises they made to assist the march of our army, but deterred others from coming forward. I am willing to admit that they have latterly shewn a disposition to second our wishes, and I have availed myself, in consequence, of the latitude left me by my instructions to demand only what I conceive indispensable to the present and future safety of our interests. In doing so, I have studied those of the Ameers; and, as already observed, they will, by a refusal of this Treaty, demonstrate to the world that they have no desire to repair their past errors, or to preserve relations of amity with the British Government.

20. Should the Ameers express a wish to defer their final answer till they see me, you will inform their Highnesses, that there is no time for procrastination; that I would have gone myself to Hyderabad, but that the arrangements, not only for this force advancing, but for the reception of the reserve force, can only be completed in concert with the Commander-in-chief; and that the terms laid down in the Treaty are not only precise and simple, but final, so that there can be no admissible cause for delay.

21. I have strong hopes, that many of the arguments I have introduced into this dispatch may be uncalled for, by the Ameers' acquiescence in the Treaty, and of course you will only bring them forward if absolutely required. I send you English and Persian copies of the memoranda I furnished to the Ameers, on my arrival at Hyderabad in October last, likewise of the former

Treaties, both with Hyderabad and Khyrpore, in case you should wish to refer to them, or the Ameers quote them. Should they do so, their object will most probably be to contrast their provisions with those now tendered, to which the simple answer is, that their failure, and not ours, has led to the change.

22. Your language should be as friendly and conciliatory as possible, but, at the same time, firm; and you will take the earliest opportunity of intimating to all the Ameers, through the Native Agent, that the smallest act of hostility will plunge matters beyond the chance of recall.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 120.

Draft of Treaty to be proposed to the Ameers of Hyderabad.

WHEREAS Treaties of friendship and amity have, from time to time, been entered into between the British and Hyderabad Governments; and whereas circumstances have lately occured which render it expedient and necessary to revise those Treaties; with a view to which this Draft has been prepared, agreeably to instructions addressed by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, Governor-General of India, &c. &c. &c. to Colonel Henry Pottinger, Resident in Sinde, &c.

I. There shall be lasting friendship, alliance, and amity between the Honorable the East India Company and the Hyderabad Government; and the provisions of all former Treaties, not modified or annulled by the present one, are hereby confirmed.

II. The Governor-General of India has commanded that a British force shall be kept in Sinde, and stationed at the city of Tatta, where a cantonment will be formed. The strength of this force is to depend on the pleasure of the Governor-General of India.

III. Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Mahomed Khan bind themselves to pay annually the sum of in part of the expense of the force, from the presence of which, their respective territories will derive such vast advantages.

IV. The Chiefs of Beloochee tribes, and all others holding grants (jacedads), pensions (wazeefas), jagheers (tesols), &c. from the different Ameers, are to continue to enjoy them as they now do, the Ameers being answerable for their peaceable conduct towards the British Government and its subjects.

V. The British Government pledges itself neither to interfere, in any degree, small or great, in the internal management or affairs of the several possessions of the Ameers, nor to think of introducing in any shape, its regulations or adawluts.

VI. The British Government pledges itself on no pretence to listen to the complaints of the Beloochee Chiefs, or any other subjects, whether Mussulmans, Hindoos, or other castes, against their Highnesses.

VII. The British Government agrees to protect Sinde from all foreign aggression.

VIII. The Company's rupee being exactly of the same value as that called

the Bakkroo or Tymooree, it is to be considered current in the British cantonment and this country at the same rate; but in every case, when the British Government may have to coin any of the rupees now in circulation in Sinde, the seignorage or dues of the Sinde Government shall be paid agreeable to the custom of the country.

IX. Should any Ameer attack or injure the possessions of another Ameer, or those of his dependents, the Resident of Sinde will, on receiving the sanction of the Governor-General of India, act as mediator between them, but it is to be distinctly understood that he (the Resident) is not to intermeddle with trifling points.

X. Should any Beloochee, or other Chief, rebel against the authority of the Ameer to whom he appertains, or attack the lands or other possessions of any other Ameer or Chief, and the Ameer to whom he appertains, shall declare his inability to coerce such Chief, the Governor-General will take his case into consideration, on its being submitted to his Lordship by the Resident, and will, should his Lordship see sufficient reason, order such assistance to be given, as may be requisite to punish the offender.

XI. Their Highnesses the Ameers agree to form no new treaties, or enter into any engagements with foreign States, without the knowledge and concurrence of the British Government, but their Highnesses will, of course, carry on friendly correspondence as usual, with all their neighbours.

XII. The British Government agrees on its part, not to form any Treaty, or enter into any engagement that can possibly affect the interest of Sinde, without the concurrence and knowledge of their Highnesses the Ameers.

XIII. During the months of the year that vessels cannot enter the mouths of the Indus, the communication between Bombay and Sinde by sea, is to be carried on by Kurachee Bunder; and should it, at any time be requisite to send public stores to that place, every facility is to be afforded by the Sinde authorities to their being landed and forwarded under a guard, which will be sent from Tatta, to receive and watch them.

XIV. The Ameers agree to either build, or allow the British Government to build, an inclosure and storehouse at Kurachee, as a depôt for stores, their Highnesses incurring no sort of expense on this account, and being repaid (should they build the inclosure, &c.) for any outlay they may incur.

XV. Should any British merchants, or others, bring goods by way of Kurachee Bunder, the duties of the Sinde Government (both import and transit) will be paid on them, agreeable to the custom of the country, and no exemption from such duties shall be claimed.

XVI. Amongst the great objects of the Governor-General in fixing a British force in Sinde, is that of perfecting the arrangements which have been in progress for several years, for opening the Indus to traders, and as the thoroughfare (*amund waruft*) will now be increased an hundredfold, the contracting Governments agree to abolish all tolls on the river from the sea to Ferozepore.

XVII. To protect the interests of the different Governments from any loss that might arise from the unrestrained intercourse provided for in the preceding Article, it is hereby agreed, that all goods landed and sold (except those that are sold in the British camp, or cantonment) shall be subject to duties agreeable to the usage in Sinde, and the other States on that point, and no exception shall be made to this stipulation.

XVIII. Goods of all kinds may be brought, by merchants and others, to the mouths of the Indus (Gorabaree) at the proper season, and kept there, at the pleasure of the owners, till the best period of the year for sending them up the river; but should any merchant land, and sell any part of his merchandize, either at

Gorabaree, or any where else (except at the British cantonment or camp), such merchant shall pay the duties on them.

XIX. Should the British Government at any time require and apply for the aid of the army of Sinde, their Highnesses the Ameers agree to furnish it according to their means; and in any such case, the Governor-General of India will take into consideration the expense the Ameers may incur, with a view to the diminution of the sum mentioned in the IIIrd Article of this Treaty.

XX. The terms of this Treaty are to be considered applicable to Meer Sobdar Khan of Hyderabad.

XXI. A separate Treaty has been made between the British Government and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

XXII. Should Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore wish it, a treaty on the basis of this one will be made with him.

XXIII. The British Government undertakes to guarantee to the different Ameers, their heirs, and successors, on their acquiescing in the terms of this Treaty, the perpetual enjoyment of their respective possessions; and the friends and enemies of one part, shall be the friends and enemies of the other.

This Treaty of Twenty-three Articles having been concluded, and signed and sealed, its ratification by the Right Honorable the Governor-General shall be exchanged within forty days from this date.

Done at Hyderabad, on the day of 1839, A. D. corresponding with the day of Hegira.

No. 121.

The Resident in Sinde to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

CAPTAIN EASTWICK, my assistant, and Captain Outram, an aide-de-camp (Moosahib) of the General Sahib Bahadoor, now proceed to Hyderabad, to have the pleasure of an interview with your Highness. I send by them a draft of a Treaty which I have prepared, agreeable to instructions that have reached me from the Governor-General of India. By the terms of this Treaty, your Highness will perceive that the two Governments really become one; and it is necessary for me to point out to your Highness, the wealth that will flow into Sinde from the British force stationed in it, which will give employment to thousands of the people of this country, will cause a vast increase to the revenues from the demand for grain, and every other article of consumption, and will bring merchants from every quarter to settle in the country. Your Highness will likewise observe, that the arrangements which have been made, will interfere in no degree with the shikargahs, &c. of your Highness and the other Ameers, and that your possessions are placed for ever under the guarantee of the British Government. I have not included the payment to be made to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in consideration of all demands, past, present, and future, on account of the tribute, and Shikarpore, as I am not authorized to settle that point; but I wrote to the Governor-General of India on this subject before I quitted Hyderabad, and I am daily expecting to be honoured with his Lordship's orders on this head, when I shall immediately address you again. The force that is to remain in Sinde, has been ordered to be sent up as soon as possible, and on your Highness's and the other Ameers' acceptance of the Treaty, the troops are to be disembarked at Vikkur, or, otherwise, they have orders to go to Kurachee, and land there. The army now here will proceed up this side of the river to Shikarpore, as soon as camels and boats are collected, and, as every day's delay is of consequence, exclusive of its detention, I must again beg your Highness will

not relax in your endeavours to provide carriage of all kinds. The particulars of the Treaty made with his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, will no doubt be known to you. I have not yet received a copy of it, but when I do so, I will send one for your Highness's perusal. Sir Alexander Burnes has gone to meet the Shah. Continue to favour me with accounts of your good health, for which I am constantly wishing until we meet. For all further particulars I refer you to Captain Eastwick, who is fully acquainted with the sentiments of the Governor-General and myself.

H. POTTINGER.

No. 122.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, January* 15, 1839.

SO uneasy and heavy has been the pressure of matter since I last reported my proceedings on the 21st ultimo, that I have found it impossible to do more than get through the current business of each day, and I must even now crave the Governor-General's indulgence till a period of greater leisure.

2. My letter of the 11th instant, and its inclosure, will have shewn his Lordship the impoverished state of Sinde, between this place and Kurachee, and that fact, together with the receipt of the instructions contained in your letter of the 13th ultimo, has led me to deviate from the resolution I had previously formed, of not bringing forward my terms, until this force was opposite the capital, a delay for which I should have had no difficulty in accounting, by saying I was awaiting his Lordship's final commands.

3. I now have the honor to submit copies of my letter of yesterday's date to Lieutenant Eastwick, and of the translations of the Treaty and letters alluded to therein.

4. I have studied (and I hope succeeded) in rendering both the Treaty and letter applicable to each of the Ameers, without the alteration of a single word in either, which I consider to be an important point gained, not merely at present, but in advertence to times to come.

5. My letter to Lieutenant Eastwick is so explanatory and full, that I do not know that I can add a word to it, and I can only express my respectful hope that the terms I have proffered to the Hyderabad Chiefs will be considered by his Lordship to be such as will secure our grand object of having a force in Sinde, and at the same time proving the sincerity of our wish to avoid collision, and our forbearance in asking, under past and present circumstances, merely for what is absolutely necessary to secure our interests and supremacy.

6. I mean to give Lieutenant Eastwick permission to accept the city of Tatta, and its surrounding district, in lieu of Noor Mahomed Khan's money payment, should that Chief propose any such arrangement: they belong to him, and yield at present not more than sixty thousand rupees a-year, but my dispatch of the 23rd of November will show the sentiments I entertain of their probable rapid and vast improvement.

7. I shall request Lieutenant Eastwick to communicate to you the result of his communications with the Ameers at the earliest possible moment, for his Lordship's information, by which some days will be saved, leaving all details for future dispatches.

8. It is proper I should mention that each of the Ameers has a principal officer in attendance on his Excellency the Commander-in-chief in his camp, and therefore any apprehension of insult or ill-treatment of the gentlemen of the Residency now at Hyderabad need in no degree be entertained.

9. Copies of this letter and its accompaniments will be transmitted for the information of the Governor in Council of Bombay, and this packet is forwarded under a flying seal for the notice of Mr. Macnaghten.

I have, &c.,

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 123.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, Dunowlah, January* 16, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch under date 21st ultimo, announcing your having summoned the reserve force from Bombay to join the army in Sinde.

2. The Governor-Geveral fully approves of your having done so, but suspends any further observations on the position of affairs in Sinde, as you will have before this been in possession of the instructions issued by his Lordship for your general guidance.

3. The embarrassment in which you at present find yourself in consequence of a want of money, will be, in the opinion of the Governor-General, best obviated by having recourse to the expedient noted in your dispatch, for coining part of the bullion with you into such pieces as are likely to be made most easily current.

4. His Lordship desires me to say, that as regards the issue of a proclamation declaring that the Company's rupee, or one of equivalent value struck in Shah Shooja's name, shall be received or made a legal tender, he must depend upon your judgment, and the estimate which you may be enabled to make of the effect which such a measure is likely, under casual circumstances, to have for good or for evil.

5. The tone held by you towards the Ameers regarding their treatment of the officers of the Residency, has his Lordship's full approbation.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 124.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Dunowlah, January* 16, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch with inclosures under date 28th ultimo, and in reply to express the full approbation of the Governor-General as to the line of conduct you have pursued, in granting separate agreements to the junior Ameers of Khyrpore.

2. The agreements in question are returned herewith, duly ratified by the Governor-General in duplicate, one copy of each, after obtaining the signature of the Meers, you will return for record in this office.

3. Before, however, delivering to Meer Moobaruck Khan the paper intended for him, his Lordship is desirous that you should communicate personally with Mr. Macnaghten, whose advice and opinion it will be very expedient that you should in that instance avail yourself of.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 125.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Camp, at Gotkee on Nowshera,
Sir, *Sinde, January* 16, 1839.

I HAVE the satisfaction to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that the Chief of Khyrpore has consented for ever

to renounce all right to toll on the River Indus throughout his territories.

2. I had avoided discussing this point while the Treaty was pending, as questions might have arisen as to the protection of the merchant being in the hands of the paramount power (the British), but nothing has been said on it, and of course the Chief of Khyrpore must still be now held responsible for the merchant's safety, as heretofore.

I have, &c.,
ALEX. BURNES.

No. 126.

Lieutenant Eastwick to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Without date, supposed Hyderabad, January* 21, 1839.

I DEEM it my duty to report that I consider affairs at this capital have assumed decidedly a hostile aspect, and that there is very little chance of the present negotiations being brought to a favorable conclusion.

2. I conceive it of the highest importance that Sir John Keane and yourself, should have early intimation of this fact, that measures may be taken suitable to the occasion.

3. The delay of a few days being of consequence to the advance of the British troops, and the adoption of other precautionary steps, I shall not attempt to precipitate matters, but act to the best of my judgment, according as events may justify my surmises.

4. I have received, from various quarters, intelligence that military preparations are in progress in the fort; that money is being disbursed to the Beloochees that are hourly arriving; that couriers have been dispatched to summon the tribes at a distance.

5. I was to have visited Meer Sobdar Khan, at one o'clock, this day; no deputation has arrived to escort me to the palace. I have it from two authorities, that he has coalesced with the other Ameers, who have determined to resist the demands of the British Government.

6. I have only to add, that it is impossible, at present, to decide on what course it will be requisite to adopt with respect to the gentlemen and establishment of the Residency, but I hope to-morrow to be able to furnish further information.

I have, &c.,
WM. J. EASTWICK.

No. 127.

Sir W. Cotton to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Camp, Roree, January* 25, 1839.

IT becomes now absolutely necessary that I should consider, in the absence of any instructions from Sir John Keane, how this force can be disposed of most usefully, to assist any pending negotiations that Sir John, or Colonel Pottinger, may have going on, and at the same time meet your Lordship's and the Government's wishes.

As the engineers have reported to me the bridge will not be ready for the passage of the army before the 3rd or 4th of next month, I have determined on making an immediate demonstration on Hyderabad, and shall move the cavalry brigade, and horse artillery, and Brigadier Sale's brigade, and camel battery, to Khyrpore, on route for Nowshera. This will, I confidently believe, have an immediate effect upon any nego-

tiations, and if Sir John wants us, should the Ameers resist the equitable demands offered them, we shall be so far advanced to meet the object he requires.

Should he not want us, we can countermarch, and as the bridge will not be finished for some time, be enabled to pass it very nearly as soon as it will be ready. Sir Henry Fane has a letter from Sir John Keane, of the 15th, mentioning Colonel Pottinger's having sent into Hyderabad his terms, but the manner of their reception by the Ameers was not named.

January 24, 1839.

My opinion is that a strong demonstration be made towards Hyderabad.

I should push forward a force towards that place forthwith.

I should make a communication to the Chief of Khyrpore that the unsettled state of affairs at Hyderabad, compelled me to move part of my troops on towards that place, and that you expected, from his friendly connection with the British Government, that he would forthwith issue all the requisite orders, for the repair of roads, supply of provisions, &c.

H. FANE.

No. 128.

Sir John Keane to Sir Henry Fane.

Camp, Sounda, 24 miles north of Tatta,
January 24, 1839.

Sir,

IN the night, your letter of the 14th, from Chota Bona, reached me, beginning, "I wonder I have not heard from you." It is strange where my epistles have been roaming to, for I have not failed to communicate every event which could in the least have been interesting, or have kept you informed of what we were doing, or likely to do.

You appear to think that I ought to have sent orders to the Bengal column some time since; had I a communication to make, I surely would have done so: had I not been led to suppose, with many others, until practice has convinced me to the contrary, that Sinde would not have occupied or delayed us so long, and that about this period, the columns would have joined at, or near, Shikarpore, I would not have delayed until this date to say, what now is very clearly seen, that the Hyderabad Government offers a stronger opposition to our views, than any person could have imagined. I have in former communications stated to you, that Sinde has all along been considered a light affair, as it might be called a secondary consideration; as relating to the campaign, so near as I can judge at this hour, it assumes a different aspect, and takes a first place in the operations of the army, for this division cannot move on and leave this Government and its host of Barbarians hostile behind us. When I had written so far, a cossid from Hyderabad has come in, and by which, Captain Outram, my aide-de-camp, who accompanied Colonel Pottinger's first assistant to Hyderabad, on the 18th, with the Treaty decided upon to be presented to the Government, has sent me the copy of a letter which he had addressed to you, after having had a conference with the Ameers, and seeing clearly the turn affairs were likely to take. That letter will most probably reach you in safety, and will place you in possession of the true state of the case, and leaving but few hours to elapse before the positive declaration of war, by a direct act of hostility. I will, however, move on to Jerruck, to-morrow, and will not close this until I see my way from thence.

At Jerruck, January 26.

Things have come to a crisis in Lower Sinde; the gentlemen of the Residency have been obliged to leave Hyderabad, and are now in my camp. On the 20th, the assistant and aide-de-camp reached the capital, and sent the Treaty for the perusal of their Highnesses, and the following day was appointed for a meeting, but in the course of the day (21st) the Ameers sent to say, they begged the meeting should be postponed to the 22nd. On that day it took place, and the Treaty was discussed, Article after Article, their Highnesses expressing their great dissatisfaction at many of the Articles, but especially the one which provides for the British Government leaving a subsidiary force in the country after the advance of this division. The principal Ameer, Noor Mahomed Khan, said, "Is this to be our reward for allowing your troops a passage through our country?" Much conversation took place, when the interview closed by the Ameers saying, they could not, that day, give any explicit answer as to their intentions, or whether they would accept the Treaty. At 9, on the 23rd, the Residency Moonshee came to the camp with Noor Mahomed's answer, passing hordes of the troops, which now surround the city, close up to the Residency tents, near two miles from the city. The reply was, the Treaty should be sent back, that the gentlemen of the Embassy might stay or go, as they pleased, but that no pledge of safety could be given to them, having no control over the Beloochees.

This was conclusive, and seeing that the troops advanced closer to the tents, the Embassy embarked that evening, and dropped down to this place. I found them here on reaching yesterday morning. Since then, we have received positive information that they have taken possession of and used the large depôt of grain and forage which had been formed there by Colonel Pottinger for the use of this army; and that troops have been crossing the river the whole of yesterday to dispute our advance. This place offers the best position I have yet seen on the line of our march for meeting an enemy or holding it against them; it is on the river, and the town on elevated ground. My present intention is to advance, and attack the force with Noor Mahomed Khan at their head that have crossed over, as they are never likely to respect us until they receive a lesson; to do this effectually, I shall be obliged to wait a day or two here for the bulk of the stores of ammunition and provision now coming up the river, but are at no great distance from this. The camels that we have been able to collect are not sufficient to enable me to undertake any movement of consequence, or one at any distance from the river. Thus you will see that Lower Sinde is not likely to be the very easy conquest that was anticipated.

It appears the whole country in front and rear of us is now aroused, and under arms, to exterminate us if they can. Under these circumstances, and as troops are flocking from all directions to the capital, which it will be necessary for us to invest, I must therefore suggest the propriety of a column of the Bengal Army marching down the left bank of the river to our assistance, and I cross over this division at the best point and in the best manner I can, and then make a combined movement on the city and fort. I recommend a brigade of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, and troop of horse artillery, should be sent down as early as possible, as, until the affairs in Sinde are settled, it is out of the question to think of Affghanistan; and it seems to me, from the unexpected turn affairs have taken, to be of the utmost consequence that we should do the thing effectually in Sinde, because the eyes of all India will be upon us, and so much depends on our success in the stake we hold upon the game.

Our reserve force is to rendezvous at the mouth of the Indus, and will proceed at once to take possession of Kurachee. Sir Frederick Maitland brings up Her Majesty's 40th Regiment in the flag ship; two native regiments of infantry come in two steamers with two companies of artillery: one regiment of native infantry is for the present divided between our landing place near Vikkur and the city of Tatta, to keep open, if possible, the communication in our rear. You tell me that the cavalry and artillery could march down in fourteen marches from Bukkur to Hyderabad, and the infantry by water might be expected in the same time. I can

have no certainty of when this may reach you, but if anything can pass, Colonel Pottinger is promised a safe convoy for it. Cutting off our communications by cossids, is one of the resolutions the Ameers have come to. I shall send a copy of this letter to Sir W. Cotton, in order that he may act upon it, should it reach him before he hears from you. The plans of the Governor-General will be greatly delayed by this unforeseen dilemma in which the conduct of the Ameers has placed us, and which is at variance with what Colonel Pottinger expected, but it cannot be helped, as we never could leave Sinde in our rear with a determined feeling of hostility towards us, such as is now evinced. You may suppose how anxious I shall be to hear from you, and to know the probable time we may expect the troops from Bukkur.

I have, &c.,
JOHN KEANE.

No. 129.

Sir John Keane to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Jerruck, January* 26, 1839.

THE accompanying copy of a letter which I have this day addressed to Sir Henry Fane at Bukkur, will inform your Lordship that the conduct of the Ameers of Hyderabad rendered it necessary for the gentlemen of the Residency to quit that capital, and to join my camp. Colonel Pottinger will, doubtless, make known to your Lordship the details of all that had preceded the adoption of that step. Our relations with Sinde are now so much altered that decided measures must be taken, and the rulers be reduced to the necessity of submitting to whatever terms may be dictated to them by us. I greatly regret that matters should have come to this pass, as it will so materially interfere with, and delay, the ulterior plans of your Lordship, but it must be evident that only one course remains to us to adopt, and that is, to reduce the country to subjection and make our power felt, as we never could think of advancing, leaving Sinde behind us in a state of hostility, or even doubt upon that score.

Although I have no opinion of their troops as a formidable enemy to us, whenever we have the opportunity of trying our strength with them, yet I never lose sight of the golden rule,—that a General has no right to despise overmuch his enemy.

The Ameers seem to have made up all their differences, and to have collected a mass of Beloochees, called an army, from all quarters, to their assistance. It is impossible, from any information I have yet received, to estimate the numbers now at the capital, but it is probably not less than 20,000. Money has been distributed to them in profusion, it seems. They are all armed in their way, and consider themselves the most warlike and the best soldiers in the world, and the members* believe, or pretended to believe, the same thing. It will, therefore, be necessary to teach them a lesson, and our latest information is that they are now crossing the river with the Ameers at their head, and bringing twelve pieces of artillery mounted, (we are aware that they have mounted their guns of late), to give us battle. I sincerely hope it may be so, and it signifies not what their numbers may be against even my small, well equipped, and disciplined force, as I shall attack them without hesitation. One short action will, probably, satisfy them, but I much fear they will not give the opportunity, or, indeed, await on this side of the Indus, but prefer defending the capital. I have, therefore, come to the conclusion that if we have (as is likely) to invest Hyderabad, which they will doubtless defend resolutely, it will be better to err on the sure side, and to order some of the Bengal column down the left bank of the river, whilst we shall cross, with the means we have, below, and in this manner invest the place in an effectual way.

This arrangement will probably cost us fewer lives (an object not to be lost sight of with reference to ulterior proceedings) than attacking the city and fort with the Bombay force alone, which, under present circum-

* Sic in orig.

stances, is still further reduced by strong guards that we are always obliged to keep with our valuable stores, including the siege train, powder, &c.

The amount of force I have asked to be sent from Sir Willoughby Cotton's column, your Lordship will observe, by my letter to Sir Henry Fane, is one brigade of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, and one troop of horse artillery. Ample time will thus be given for crossing the remainder of the Bengal column at Bukkur, with the matériel, baggage, camels, &c.; and a movement in advance of Shikarpore, were it only to establish depôts of grain, &c., may be advisable whilst we are engaged here.

I am obliged to halt here to wait the arrival of, and to place in security, the boats, with the great bulk of our ammunition and stores of every kind, now on the river, but at no great distance from here. We have ascertained that messengers have been sent to the Sinde boatmen in our pay, from the agents of the Ameers, threatening them with death, themselves, their families, and relations, if they did not scuttle and sink their boats containing our ammunition and all else we had in them.

When I had got so far in my letter, Colonel Pottinger came into my tent, and read to me his letter (which goes with this *viâ* Bombay, as we have reason to doubt their safety by any other route) to Mr. Farish, which he has requested the Governor of Bombay to get copied and sent to your Lordship. It is very explanatory of our situation, and, therefore, it is unnecessary for me to add more in this letter than that our troops continue in excellent order, health, and spirits.

I have, &c.,
JOHN KEANE.

No. 130.

Lieutenant Eastwick to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, January* 26, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for your information, a detailed report of my proceedings during my late mission to Hyderabad.

2. I reached that capital on the 20th instant, and lost no time in obeying your instructions regarding the letters intrusted to my charge, forwarding them by the Native Agent to each of the Ameers, and desiring him to request their Highnesses to send their own Moonshees to take a copy of the treaty of which I was the bearer, and also to fix an early hour for an interview, that I might communicate messages of importance.

3. During his absence I was waited upon by deputations from Meer Noor Mahomed and from Meer Meer Mahomed, simply visits of ceremony.

4. About four o'clock the native agent returned, accompanied by Moonshee Chothram, who came on the part of Meer Noor Mahomed, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed, to take a copy of the Treaty.

5. Meer Sobdar Khan was unfortunately absent from the city on a hunting expedition: as I conceived it was highly desirable that he should be placed on a par with the other Ameers with respect to information regarding the intentions of the British Government, I directed a copy of the Treaty to be made, and transmitted it, together with your letter, to his Highness's hunting seat.

6. The Native Agent brought back the usual formal messages and an intimation from Meer Noor Mahomed, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed, that they would be happy to receive Captain Outram and myself, the next day after twelve o'clock, and would send a deputation to escort us to the fort.

7. In the evening, I was employed in seeing the Treaty faithfully transcribed, and explaining many of the words and phrases to Moonshee Chothram, an illiterate Hindoo, whose ignorance and stupidity afforded proof of the barbarism of a Court that could intrust matters of importance to such an agent. That he alone was sent on the part of the three Ameers, appeared to me the act of Meer Noor Mahomed, who, naturally

anxious to retain his position as "head of the State," wished still to be the channel of communication between the British and Hyderabad Governments.

8. As this was a point on which it was of consequence to come to a clear understanding, I desired the Native Agent to express my regret to Meer Nusseer and Meer Mahomed, that they had not sent their own Moonshees to copy the Treaty according to my request; I directed him also to add, that they would have seen from the letters of Colonel Pottinger being exactly the same to each of them, that the British Government considered the four Ameers equal; that I should be happy to wait on them individually, but that it was to save time, and, as they had no objection, that I had consented to see the three together; that I was empowered to give each a separate copy of the Treaty, but that I would explain these matters fully when I had the honor of an interview with their Highnesses.

9. On the 21st, I awaited their promised deputation to escort Captain Outram and myself to the fort. At dusk, the Native Agent came out to camp, to convey some frivolous excuse from the Ameers for deferring the interview until the next day. I desired him to return and mention that it would have been better if their Highnesses had made no appointment, but that I supposed they had some good reason for breaking it. If it again occurred, I should attribute it to other causes, and act accordingly.

10. On the 22nd I was visited by a deputation from Meer Sobdar Khan, who had returned from his hunting expedition the preceding evening; as I was most anxious to avoid delay, I sent back with this deputation my own Moonshee to read over and explain the Treaty to his Highness, and also to intimate that I would wait upon him whenever it was agreeable. My Moonshee reported to me that Meer Sobdar, with the characteristic apathy of Asiatics, had not even opened the Treaty, that he said he was fatigued, and declined entering upon business.

11. About one o'clock Captain Outram, Lieutenant Leckie, and myself, started for the fort. We were received by Meer Noor Mahomed, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed, in a private apartment, in which Meer Shadad, Meerza Khoosrow, Nawab Mahomed Khan, and Moonshee Chothram were present. There were also some of the Beloochee chiefs seated in an inner room.

12. After a profusion of civilities, evidently forced, Meer Noor Mahomed produced a box, from which he took out all the treaties that had been entered into between the British and Hyderabad Governments. Showing them to me one by one, he asked, "what is to become of all these?" I referred him to the first Article of the present Treaty. "Yes," he said, "here is another annoyance; since the day that Sinde has been connected with the English, there has always been something new; your Government is never satisfied; we are anxious for your friendship, but we cannot be continually persecuted. We have given a road to your troops through our territories, and now you wish to remain. This the Beloochees will never suffer. But still we might even arrange this matter, were we certain that we should not be harassed with other demands. There is the payment to the King, why can we obtain no answer on this point? Four months have now elapsed since this question was first discussed. Is this a proof of friendship? We have failed in nothing; we have furnished camels, boats, grain; we have distressed ourselves to supply your wants; we will send our ambassador to the Governor-General to represent these things; you must state them to Colonel Pottinger."

13. I replied that the letter from Colonel Pottinger explained the reason why the payment to Shah Shooja had not been mentioned in the Treaty. With respect to the other points alluded to, it was not my province to discuss them; that I had no authority to enter into any lengthened negotiations; that I was simply the bearer of a treaty, of which I had not the power of altering one tittle; that I should be most happy to afford every information I possessed; and that if, in the course of the conference, I told their Highnesses any unpleasant truths, they must

consider I was only fulfilling my duty. A messenger must deliver his message.

14. I added that it was the earnest wish of Colonel Pottinger that a speedy answer should be returned, as he was most anxious to preserve peace and amity between the two Governments; that troops were on their road to Kurachee, but that, if their Highnesses consented to the Treaty, there was yet time to change their destination, and disembark them at Ghorabaree; that I trusted their Highnesses would reflect, as any collision would entail the most fatal consequences.

15. On this Meer Noor Mahomed requested me to produce the original draft of the Treaty with the signature and seal of Colonel Pottinger. These all the three Ameers narrowly inspected, and then desired me to have it read, article by article, as there were many important points on which they required information.

16. Little was said concerning the preamble or first Article, except a few remarks by the Nawab Mahomed Khan, who, throughout the whole conference, evinced a decided spirit of hostility to the British Government, and a half concealed contempt for his masters, the Ameers.

17. The proposition for a British force remaining in Sinde, contained in Article II., did not appear particularly obnoxious to the Ameers themselves, although Noor Mahomed entered into a long discussion to show they were not requisite. All the Ameers were desirous of learning the strength of the force, but, of course, on that point I could give them no satisfactory answer.

18. The Third Article called forth numberless complaints of poverty; and, on the mention of the benefits that were to arise from the location of a British force in Sinde, Noor Mahomed broke out into a passionate exclamation at the evils that had already resulted from the English connexion. "We ought never to have granted a road through our territories; that was my act alone; all the Beloochees predicted what would happen; this is the consequence of friendship." I replied, "This is the consequence of a want of friendship; you have only to thank yourselves; had a road not been granted; we should have taken it by force. The empire of India is in the hands of the British. We have the power to reward our friends and to punish our enemies; the time has arrived when there must be a broad line of distinction: no State can be permitted to assume a doubtful attitude; you have had the option; nothing has been omitted on the part of the British Government to strengthen the bonds of friendship and alliance; the Governor-General's most secret intentions were made known to you; while you were at a distance, his Lordship was consulting your interests, and labouring for your advantage; the independence of Sinde was provided for on the most moderate and just conditions. Would the Maharajah Runjeet Sing, would His Majesty Shah Shooja, if it had been left to them, have had the same consideration. As to the benefits resulting from the introduction of a British force into Sinde, they were clear and palpable; employment would be given to thousands, a vast influx of capital would encourage commerce and manufactures, this would eventually find its way into the treasuries of their Highnesses. The Indus, now so barren, would teem with vessels, jungles would yield to the plough, and prosperity succeed to decay and depopulation."

19. "All this may be very true," replied Noor Mahomed, "but I do not understand how it concerns us; what benefit do we derive from these changes? On the contrary, we shall suffer injury, our hunting preserves will be destroyed, our enjoyments curtailed; you tell us that money will find its way into our treasury, it does not appear so; our contracto[illegible]s write to us, that they are bankrupt, they have no means of fulfilling [illegible] contracts; boats, camels, are all absorbed by the English troo[illegible] at a stand; a pestilence has fallen on the land; you [illegible] the people, what are the people to us, poor or rich? [illegible] ey pay us o[illegible] e good en[illegible] bours; [illegible] subject[illegible] free fr[illegible]

20. It was useless to remind their Highnesses that the prosperity of the subject is the strength of the ruler. The commonest truths are far beyond the grasp of their comprehension. They are, as Mr. Elphinstone justly observed of their forefathers, "Barbarians of the rudest stamp, without even barbarous virtues." It it painful to the mind of a British subject, enjoying the blessings of British civilization, British laws, and British liberty, to reflect upon a nation languishing at this hour in such a miserable state of ignorance and degradation. He may be pardoned for expressing his humble hope that the time may not be far distant when the light of knowledge may reach their land, and the beams of science and philosophy break in upon them, to blaze at some happier period in still later times, with full lustre.

21. Their Highnesses objected to the 4th Article on the plea that it rendered their chiefs independent of their control. The 5th and 6th met with their unqualified approbation: on the perusal of the 7th I endeavoured to impress upon their minds the vast boon of British protection, for which they were perfectly incapable of making an equivalent return. I told them that, not to mention our own forbearance, British power alone had preserved them from the grasp of the Sikhs, and, as tributaries to Shah Shooja, they had everything to dread from His Majesty, unless they could take refuge under the shelter of our guarantee.

22. The next Articles were passed over without any particular comment, until we came to the 13th. At the mention of Kurachee Bunder, Mahomed Khan did not wait to hear what the Ameers might say; he shook his head and exclaimed, "You cannot come to Kurachee; that will never be permitted." I again explained to them that I had no authority whatever to make any alteration in the Treaty; that if they objected to this, they would be most probably compelled to yield greater concessions; that they would, perhaps, lose Kurachee altogether, of which we could take immediate possession. Meer Meer Mahomed observed, "This is not proper language to use before us." Meer Noor Mahomed added, "You are powerful, and you think you may do as you like, but we will never agree to this Article."

23. On the 16th Article they were anxious to learn whether the Maharajah Runjeet Sing had agreed to the abolition of the toll. The 19th gratified their vanity; they declared that with English artillery and Beloochee swords, the whole world might be subdued. Noor Mahomed asked why the English were so desirous of the friendship of Runjeet Sing. "We have vanquished the Sikh, and we will do so again."

24. The 20th Article gave rise to a long discussion. I was obliged to explain at length the grounds of the distinction that had been drawn, and the reasons for the exemption of Meer Sobdar from contributing his share towards the payment of the subsidiary force. Noor Mahomed said, "Do not talk of friendship; I alone have been the friend of the English in the whole of Sinde." I had pleaded also Sobdar's poverty, having so lately succeeded to his hereditary rights. Upon which Meer Mahomed remarked, "All the world is aware that I have no money." Meer Nusseer Khan said in Sinde, in a low voice, "We are slain;" this I heard afterwards from the Native Agent, who was sitting close to Meer Nusseer.

25. I took the opportunity of the perusal of the 23rd Article, to explain to each of the three Ameers the separation of their combined interests; I was determined to place this question on a clear, distinct and indisputable footing. The influence of Meer Noor Mahomed over the other two Ameers was sufficiently evident. He would not fail to take advanta[redacted] of any ambiguity of words or phrases in the prosecution of futu[redacted] It was of importance to awaken Meer Nusseer and Meer Mee[redacted]sense of their own position; for, notwithstanding the outw[redacted]ship, I was well aware that enmity and discord reig[redacted]Meer Meer Mahomed especially murmured in se[redacted]obtuse in[redacted]British G[redacted]gns of th[redacted]were

compressed with rage, and his countenance betokened the tumult of his mind. After having received assurances from Meer Nusseer and Meer Mahomed, that they perfectly understood my meaning, I again entered into conversation with Meer Noor Mahomed, and again apologized for my apparent want of courtesy in making known unpleasant truths to their Highnesses. We soon afterwards took our leave, and did not reach home until it was dusk.

26. Early on the morning of the 23rd, intelligence was brought to me that the three Ameers had held a council after my dismissal from the fort, and had determined to resist the demands of the British Government. I learned from various sources, that military preparations were in progress; that money was being disbursed to the troops at the capital; and that couriers had been dispatched in every direction, to summon the Beloochee chiefs with their contingents.

27. The Armenian commandant of the artillery of the Ameers (by name Moosa) sent a private message to Lieutenant Leckie to intimate that he had received orders to hold himself in readiness to move with his guns at a moment's notice; that he had been called upon to make suggestions for the defence of the fort. He also said, that it had been discussed whether our small party should be attacked, and he prayed that he might be allowed to accompany us should we decide on quitting Hyderabad.

28. During the day, we observed officers of the Durbar holding communication with our boatmen; parties of armed Beloochees lingered around our camp; our followers were insulted and abused, and plainly told that their lives were in jeopardy if they remained in our service. Some of them who had gone into the city were unable to purchase provisions, as an order had been issued by the Ameers prohibiting the shopkeepers to sell any article to the people attached to the Residency.

29. About one o'clock, a party of two or three hundred armed men crossed the river, and apparently took up a position in a small village to the right of our camp. The promised deputation from Meer Sobdar Khan did not arrive to escort us to the fort, nor was there any message sent to explain the omission.

30. The accounts brought by the Native Agent confirmed these suspicious appearances; he said that the greatest excitement prevailed amongst the Beloochee Chiefs and their retainers; that they taunted Noor Mahomed for his cowardice, and openly declared that any one who would lead them against the English should become the ruler of Sinde.

31. Under these circumstances I deemed it my duty to report the state of affairs, as contained in my dispatch of the 23rd instant, a copy of which I forwarded for the information of the Governor-General of India.

32. I then directed the Native Agent to return to the Durbar, and to state to the Ameers that no answer had been received regarding the Treaty; that my servants had been menaced and abused by their soldiery; that I had heard from various quarters that hostile preparations were in progress; that the Nawab Ahmed Khan and his mission had quitted the British camp; and that I had myself seen bodies of troops assembling on both banks of the river; that, unless a satisfactory explanation was afforded on all these points, and all connected with the Residency protected from insult, I should consider it my duty to leave Hyderabad.

33. After the departure of the Native Agent, intelligence was brought that a night attack was meditated. Although, I must confess, I did not apprehend such a flagrant and unjustifiable outrage, yet, being thus repeatedly warned, it would not have been prudent to have trusted too much to the forbearance of a wild and lawless soldiery, influenced by feelings of bigotry, and allured by the prospect of plunder. We therefore made the best disposition of our small force, conveyed the baggage (except tents) and servants on board the boats, and awaited the result. A party of armed Beloochees intoxicated with spirits and bang, came down from the town at midnight; they occupied the village, and made no secret of their intention to attack our camp, when reinforced. They were probably deterred by hearing that we were prepared for their reception, or perhaps

never dreamed of putting their threats into execution. At all events, their arrival at that late hour was a most suspicious circumstance.

34. As it would have been impossible to have remained at Hyderabad to be thus harassed and insulted, I determined to await the return of the Native Agent, and to act according to the nature of the explanation afforded by the Ameers. The Native Agent reported, that their Highnesses would give no answer regarding the Treaty ; that they distinctly avowed that the Beloochee soldiery were beyond their control ; that they would not only not guarantee us from insult, but that they would not be answerable for our safety. He added, that he was prevented from bringing this intelligence last night by patroles of horsemen placed to intercept any communication with our camp.

35. I was not authorized to act so as to bring the question of peace or war to an immediate issue, and, even had I possessed that authority, I was so well aware of the importance of delay, in order to enable the British army to take measures suitable to the altered state of affairs, that I should have refrained from precipitating matters. My departure would not in any way tend to embarrass future negotiations: on the contrary, if I remained, and any collision took place with the excited soldiery, an event far from impossible, no hope of accommodation could be entertained. After giving all these points due consideration, I decided upon quitting Hyderabad.

36. The Native Agent refused to leave his house and property, but expressed apprehension for his personal safety. There were stores of grain and forage, which could not be transported at such a short notice ; I therefore wrote a letter to the Ameers, warning them that they themselves were responsible for any act of hostility, and requesting them to send a guard for the protection of the stores provided for the British army. All the people and baggage were embarked on board the boats, and sent forward. The gentlemen of the Residency followed in the steamer.

37. I have only to add, that I trust my conduct throughout this embarrassing conjuncture will meet with your sanction and approval.

I have, &c.,

W. J. EASTWICK.

No. 131.

The Resident in Sinde to Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Maitland, Naval Commander-in-Chief.

Sir, *Camp, Jerruck, January* 28, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward a duplicate of my letter to you of the 21st instant, also a copy of one which I addressed on that day to Colonel Valiant.

2. The inclosed copy of a demi-official letter, which I wrote yesterday to the Governor of Bombay, will put you in full possession of the state of affairs up to this moment.

3. Whether the Ameers are unwilling, or unable, from the violence of their soldiery, to treat with me, it matters little, and should the latter be the fact, it is not to be forgotten that those chiefs have placed themselves in this predicament, by calling out their army ; and, referring to more recent instructions which I have received from the Governor-General of India, I should not now consider myself at liberty to ratify the treaty I have offered the Ameers, without an additional stipulation, that such further penalties shall be inflicted on them as the Governor-General may think fit to direct.

4. Under these circumstances, a force must of course go to Kurachee and take possession of that place, which, I trust, for the reasons I assigned in my first instructions to Colonel Valiant, will be effected peaceably, but it is needless to tell you that all opposition must be put down.

5. There is one point to which I solicit your kind and minute attention ; I allude to the protection, under all circumstances, of the house, family, and

property of Nao Mull Seth of Kurachee. That individual is now with this force. He has most zealously and indefatigably assisted us, and I cannot convey my deep anxiety regarding him and his, better than by saying that they ought to be guarded as though they were those of the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 132.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Roree Bukkur, January* 29, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that the cavalry brigade of the Army of the Indus, reached this on the 25th instant, and that the Commander-in-chief and Sir Willoughby Cotton arrived on the preceding day.

2. Immediately his Excellency landed, he was waited upon by a deputation consisting of the chief's son, his uncle, and his minister.

3. The aspect of affairs to the south being anything but satisfactory, the Commander-in-chief intimated to me, in presence of General Cotton, that the passage of the army across the Indus, even had the bridge been ready (which it will not be for ten days), was inexpedient while matters were unadjusted at Hyderabad; that it was further his decided opinion that a portion of the army should at once march down towards Hyderabad.

4. Participating in these opinions, as far as political matters were concerned, I found myself bound to give the fullest effect to the views of his Excellency, and notify the intended movement of the troops to the south, to Meer Roostum Khan.

5. There are many reasons for following out the Commander-in-chief's views, and those which at once present themselves are, that a moment may settle the question of the Treaty at Hyderabad, without collision; that it will be the speediest means of enabling Sir John Keane to leave Lower Sinde, and embark on the campaign to the west; and, above all, that nothing, as regards time, would be really lost by the movement, since the Army of the Indus cannot pass to the westward without affairs being adjusted at Hyderabad. While his Excellency, therefore, deemed it expedient, in a military point of view, it seemed to me equally called for, in a political one.

6. On the 26th instant, Meer Roostum Khan, and his brothers Meer Moobaruck and Ali Moorad, entered the British camp to wait on the Commander-in-chief. His Lordship's ratification of the Treaty of Bukkur, had fortunately arrived over night, and it was delivered into the chief's hands by his Excellency, and received with many tokens of thankfulness and gratitude.

7. The confusion on the occasion of this interview was very great, and the scene, anywhere out of Sinde, would have been deemed as one preparatory to a riot, but the whole passed over without an accident; and Meer Roostum's brother accompanied the Commander-in-chief, after it had passed, to a review of the cavalry brigade, attended by a numerous body of Sindians, and left the ground highly gratified.

8. Discussion now arose on the part of the chief and his people on our movement on Hyderabad; deputation after deputation, yesterday and to-day, waited upon me to implore it might take place by the other side of the river, which was the territory of the Hyderabad Ameers, who had offended us; that Sir John Keane had not even come to this bank, while this army had marched on it for eleven marches, and was now to pass the homes of the Ameer's blood relations, and halt at villages where his daughters and grand-daughters were residing.

9. The consequence of this appeal was the postponement of the march during the 29th, the day on which it had been ordered, that the Ameer might have an opportunity of removing such of his relations as he

thought advisable, but I informed him that on the 30th, at day-light, the first division would pass to the south; to this he assented.

10. Preparatory, therefore, to this movement it is intended to occupy the fortress of Bukkur, which will be arranged, I hope, in the course of to-morrow. The Commander-in-chief, and his staff, have already seen the fort, and the Ameer has been informed that the British ensign will be hoisted on one bastion, and the colors of his nation on the other, an arrangement that appears very judicious, proposed by Sir W. Cotton, and which has given every satisfaction to Meer Roostum Khan. I may mention, likewise, that the omission of the few words in the ratified Treaty have not even called forth a remark, after the satisfactory letter of the Governor-General, which accompanied the Treaty.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

P.S.—The native intelligence from Hyderabad, during the day, has further served to convince me of the expediency of the march on that city, but the accompanying dispatch from Lieutenant Eastwick, which reached this at ten to-night, leaves no doubt of the imperative necessity of it; the army will not, however, advance till the day after to-morrow: the messengers who brought the packet describe the road as being very disturbed, and crowded by Beloochees hurrying to the capital.

No. 133.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Roree, Bukkur, January* 30, 1839.

IN continuation of my dispatch of yesterday I have now the satisfaction to report, for the information of the Governor-General, that the keys of the fortress of Bukkur were delivered this afternoon into the hands of an agent of my own, which I immediately notified to Sir Willoughby Cotton.

2. In company of that officer and the new garrison of the fortress, which was prepared to enforce an entrance, if opposition presented itself, I embarked on the river and saw Bukkur placed into the General's charge, the Ameer's troops having previously moved out, and the whole having been managed with the greatest order and regularity.

3. To avail ourselves of every possible diversion which can harass and annoy the Chiefs of Hyderabad, I have this day addressed the accompanying letter to Major Todd, strongly urging the movement of part of the Shah's army to Larkhana; and this, with the corresponding movement on the left bank of the Indus, will, I doubt not, soon settle the affairs of Lower Sinde, if Sir John Keane has not already brought matters to an issue.

4. The Commander-in-chief, in person, marches down with the troops, and I cannot, as appears to me, dispose of my services better than by lending all the aid of my position to conduct it to Hyderabad, or at all events till a communication is opened with the Bombay army.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 134.

Sir John Keane to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, at Jerruck, January* 31, 1839.

COLONEL POTTINGER's letter, which goes on to your Lordship to-day, will inform you that affairs still remain unfinished in this country.

Colonel Pottinger doubtless feels the responsibility of his situation, and the necessity of not coming to an open rupture with the Ameers, if

they accept the Treaty which he has proffered, and who have given him reason (through the vakeel they have sent, and is now in our camp) to understand they will do, only requiring an explanation relating to two of the articles. That explanation they have now received, but the Resident has added additional conditions, in consequence of the hesitation of their Highnesses to agree at once, and of their having assembled their troops at the capital.

Colonel Pottinger has read to me the letter he sent off to your Lordship to-day.

The armed Beloochees of the Ameers continue at Hyderabad, and have not crossed to this side where the Resident has finally decided, and if hostilities are declared I will not hesitate, to cross the Indus (from 600 to 800 yards in breadth) with this force, even in face of their troops, and in front of their capital, so much dependence have I in the steadiness of all ranks, and on the precision with which our artillery will act against them. This will be a pretty piece of practice for the army, and, if they afterwards defend the fort and town, I shall weigh in my mind whether it will be better to attack it with this small force, or wait for the arrival of the Bengal troops to act in co-operation in investing the place.

I have, &.,
A. BURNES.

No. 135.

Sir John Keane to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, Jerruck, February* 1, 1339.

SINCE I did myself the honor of addressing your Lordship yesterday, affairs in Sinde have taken another turn, at least so far as assertions can at present be depended upon.

The deputation which has to-day come from the Ameers, informs Colonel Pottinger, that their Highnesses have agreed to all the terms of the Treaty proposed. In consequence of this, I have addressed a letter to Sir Willoughby Cotton, of which I inclose a copy for your Lordship's information, countermanding the march of any part of the Bengal column down the left bank of the river, to assist in investing Hyderabad.

I shall move on to Kotree the day after to-morrow, as a large portion of the boats with our ordnance stores, under the charge of Lieutenant Carless of the Indian Navy, are at hand, and will, I expect, arrive this evening.

My encampment at Kotree will be opposite to Hyderabad. Colonel Pottinger will inform your Lordship by this opportnity, that he will insist on part of the money payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, provided for in the Treaty, being given over to us whilst this force is before the capital, and previously to its proceeding further.

Every exertion is making to get our stores up the river. Not only the current, but also strong adverse winds which blow constantly at this season, have occasioned the progress of the boats to be very slow. Another cause is, that the banks of the river in many places (especially at the shikargahs or preserves of the Ameers) are overhung with thick impenetrable jungle, which renders the tracking of the boats very tedious, as the trackers are obliged to go from side to side of the river, to look for ground on which they can hold a footing.

My stay before Hyderabad will be short: If affairs are settled according to the present understanding, I shall push on with this force to Shikarpore with all possible speed.

I hope that by to-morrow, or the day following, our reserve will have landed and taken possession of Kurachee. It appears the Ameers attach the greatest importance to our not occupying their only seaport; but from the way in which they have acted, it is quite right; and it becomes in a manner expedient to ensure our own perfect safety, that we should take present possession of it at all events.

I have, &c.,
J. KEANE.

No. 136.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Two marches from Bukkur, February* 1, 1839.

IN continuation of my letter of this morning, I beg to report that on questioning the messenger which brought me the intelligence of the rejection of the Treaty, I find that four Ameers, with a force computed at 25,000 men, crossed the Indus four miles below Hyderabad, on the 25th, determined to resist Sir John Keane's advance; that they had called in the troops of the Meerpore chief, which were approaching Hyderabad; and that all messengers had been ordered to be stopped, and two of my own couriers put into the stocks. I lose no time in making known this important intelligence.

I have, &c..
A. BURNES.

No. 137.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, opposite Hyderabad, February* 4, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India, an original letter dated the 26th ultimo, to my address, from Captain Eastwick, containing a detail of that officer's proceedings on his late deputation to Hyderabad.

2. This document now submitted, tells so clear and connected a tale that it is quite unnecessary for me to add one word of explanation to it: I have assured Captain Eastwick of my satisfaction at all he did, and my conviction that his conduct, throughout the embarrassing situation in which he was placed, will be honored by his Lordship's marked approbation.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 138.

The Resident in Sinde to J. R. Colvin, Esq., Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, opposite Hyderabad, February* 4, 1839.

YOUR letter of the 11th, accompanied by the instructions of the 10th ultimo, reached me just as we came to our ground this forenoon. I have sent off one pair of cossids with official letters to Mr. Torrens (which are under a flying seal, or an envelope, to be opened by Sir H. Fane, Sir Willoughby Cotton, or Mr. Macnaghten); and I mean to dispatch another pair to night. From the instructions with which I am now honored, I hope, and believe, the Governor-General will be well pleased with what has been done here. I consider that our supremacy in Sinde is now finally and fully established; and I have sent word to the Ameers, and tell them personally, as well as give them it in writing, that the only chance of their bad conduct being overlooked, is total and humble obedience to his Lordship's orders.

Whilst I was writing the preceding sentence, I have received news which greatly pleases me. The fort at Kurachee fired one or two guns at the "Wellesley" when the reserve went there. The Admiral brought his broadside to bear on it, and it is stated he has levelled it with the dust. I have sent to the Ameers to say, that if they "shake their lip," Sir John Keane shall do so by Hyderabad, and I will insist on the removal of every person in authority from Kurachee who is now there before I bring

away the reserve. This news has come by Nao Mull's people, mounted on express camels, but I hope there is no doubt of it. It will teach these savages to pay due respect to the British flag in time to come.

When I hear from the Admiral and Colonel Valiant, should I find any additional opposition or insult has been offered, I may perhaps stipulate that the whole matter shall await the Governor-General's pleasure,—I mean as to the reserve leaving Kurachee at all. I shall remain behind after this force moves on, with great regret; but, if my health and other circumstances permitted me to accompany Sir John Keane, I am of opinion that my presence will be more useful at Tatta; that is, after everything has been settled here. A second deputation has been with me, even more humble than the first, and I equally plain spoken.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 139.

Brigadier Valiant, commanding the Sinde Reserve Force, to Lieutenant-Colonel Macdonald, Military Secretary to the Commander-in-Chief.

Sir, *Camp, near Kurachee, February* 5, 1839.

WITH reference to my letter of the 3rd instant, I have the honor to state, for the information of the Commander-in-chief, that Her Majesty's 40th Regiment disembarked at this place yesterday, with the 2nd Grenadier Regiment, excepting 100 rank and file just landed from the "Syren." I left a company of the latter regiment in charge of the fort which we took at the mouth of the harbour, and we are getting the stores, &c., belonging to these regiments on shore as fast as possible; but this can only be done at high tide, for a mile below the landing-place at the town the channel is dry, except for about three hours when the tide is in, and when out the mud is almost impassable. There are two other creeks on the north-east side of the harbour where our people are landing their stores, &c., which at neap tides do pretty well, but the mud is deep at those places also; at spring tides the water covers the land at both these places about twelve or eighteen inches.

The fort at the mouth of the harbour would make an excellent place for stores, as store-rooms could be added, or the stores might be piled up under the walls or near the fort, and covered with tarpaulings and be perfectly secure, as the land around the fort is all of a rocky nature, and runs from the fort in an inclined plane to the land on the north side. On the south and west sides is the open sea, and on the east is the harbour. Two-thirds down this inclined plane is a dry tank where, after the rains for some months, I presume water is retained; the bottom of the tank is of rock.

There is plenty of ground to encamp two or three regiments on the whole neck of land from the Fort north, but on stony ground. The fort is square, with five bastions. I paced the south and west sides, outside the fort, and, including the bastions, found it to be forty-two good paces or yards. On the land side is a half circle added to that face for the better protection of that side; and is entered by a gateway with very strong double doors, &c., between bastions into the half-moon, from which is another gateway of the same description, into the centre of a square, in which is a small magazine with an arched roof; there is also in the square a small wooden tank, and arch in the half-moon part of the fort; the walls of the square part of the fort are about sixteen or eighteen feet thick, fifteen feet high, on which there is a parapet of about nine or ten feet, and the whole building appears to be made of solid stone and lime mortar.

I have examined the town and fort of Kurachee minutely; the fort was evidently once a strong one, with bastions on all sides, so as to completely command all around, and in each of these bastions are one or two guns lying on the ground, and of different sizes, and where they appear to have been for some years past. The walls of the fort are made of mud

and a small portion of wood in the bastions. The whole of the walls have been built on an artificial bank of about sixteen feet high, and the parapet all around the fort, &c., appears to have been about ten feet above it. Most of the bastions and walls are in a ruinous state, the inhabitants pass through many parts of the latter; there are two gateways to the fort, which have an imposing appearance, with the bastions over them, at which there are Beloochee guards. I have merely placed an European non-commissioned officer and a sepoy at each of the gates to prevent the soldiers from going into the fort and town without passes; and also a few non-commissioned officers and sepoys to patrol the streets to prevent any irregularity on the part of our people.

In the fort, at the mouth of the harbour, there is no fresh water at present, except such as is supplied from Kurachee or from the shipping.

At this place there are a great number of wells, with abundance of excellent water for all purposes, many of them in gardens. The water is generally within ten or twelve feet of the surface. On this point we have been most agreeably surprized, as we had been informed that the water was bad at Kurachee. The harbour is excellent, in which vessels may ride at all seasons of the year quite safe; and such a port, in my humble opinion, should be retained, as long as we have troops in Sinde. If we keep the fort at the entrance of the harbour it should be repaired immediately, which could soon be done, so as to leave it in the order we found it. I am anxiously waiting for his Excellency's further orders. If the reserve force is to go to Tatta, I beg leave to recommend that a certain number of wells be made at each of the halting places between this and that station, I am informed that there is plenty of water to be found within twelve feet of the surface of the ground.

At present there are only about fifty camels in this town, with a few bullocks, and I fear it will be some time before we can move for the want of carriage. The artillery have not a single bullock, or any description of conveyance for their guns, stores, &c.

I think it probable that water might be found on the land near the fort, at the entrance of the harbour, by boring for it. That spot would be a delightful one for sick men and officers, and a depôt for all purposes. I cannot refrain from strongly recommending Kurachee as the most desirable place of all others I have heard of in Sinde for European troops, and, indeed, natives also.

I have, &c.,
THOMAS VALIANT.

P.S.—The officer who commanded the fort when taken by us, said that after the ships appeared in sight he, with ten other Beloochees, were sent to reinforce the fort, with orders to defend it to the uttermost. This we have also heard from other persons here.

No. 140.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, February 6, 1839.*

THE season for active operations in Affghanistan is now rapidly coming on, and I feel that I can no longer delay the communication to you of my sentiments in an official form.

Our intelligence in this quarter is very defective. We know nothing about the state of your negotiations, nor do we even know where Sir John Keane at present is. I would recommend that if the door of reconciliation be still open, and you find difficulty in getting on, that we should be content with requiring from the Ameers an agreement to the following effect:—

1st. The payment of thirty lacs of rupees to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, within six months, by instalments of five lacs of rupees per mensem.

2nd. The free navigation of the Indus.

3rd. The admission of our Resident, as already agreed upon in a former treaty.

4th. Permission and facilities for our troops to pass through the country, and to occupy such stations as we may think proper on the frontier, pending military operations beyond the Indus.

I am utterly ignorant of the present state of your negotiations; nor have I even heard what demands you have made. There may be serious objections to receding from demands once made, but time is everything to us, and under certain contingencies we may have only a choice of evils. You may have made a reference to the Governor-General, and it is easy to say that I have come from his Lordship with powers to grant milder terms than you have imposed; and I certainly think that those which I would impose are sufficiently humiliating. If Sir John Keane is waiting for Sir Willoughby Cotton's force, he may have to wait a long time; I should guess a month at least. It was at Bhara only (the Buhurka-dera of the map) the day before yesterday. The road on the left bank is described as being wretchedly bad, and I have no doubt it will get worse. A detachment of the Shah's force has gone on to Larkhana, but the Shah himself cannot move for want of carriage. This we may possibly get in a day or two; but the effect of all this delay in settling Sinde will be, that we shall lose a whole season, and in this time it is impossible to say what may happen to prevent the success of our grand enterprise. But I beg that Sir John Keane and yourself will bear in mind that I write hypothetically, with great diffidence, and in entire ignorance of the state of affairs.

What I propose is to provide for our proceeding in a state of affairs of which neither yourself, nor Sir John Keane, may be cognizant. I do not know that Sir John Keane requires any support from this quarter, or at all events that he is aware of the difficulty of its being afforded under any circumstances compatible with the grand object of reinstating Shah Shooja on the throne of Affghanistan. I do not think it would be difficult to combine the two objects, and to afford Sir John Keane assistance, should he require it, if a brigade of the regular army, including an European regiment and a regiment of native cavalry, with a sufficient proportion of artillery and a battering train, were attached to the Shah's force. With this, and a sufficient quantity of carriage, we might move on Candahar in the beginning of next month, push forward a detachment to the aid of our friends in Herat (trusting to a reinforcement to be sent through the Bolan Pass any time before the middle of April), and be able, by some means or other, to get Dost Mahomed out of Cabool.

I have strongly recommended to Major-General Sir W. Cotton, and to Sir A. Burnes, to pass over to this side of the river all the heavy ordnance and stores; to break up the bridge at Bukkur, which is said to be in a very precarious state, and to cross over the army in the boats which formed the bridge, to this side of the river, somewhere between Larkhana and Sehwan. I may be charged with presumption in making this suggestion, as exceeding in some degree the political authority with which his Lordship has been pleased to invest me. I can only hope for indulgence on the plea that I am acting for the best, on an occasion of great difficulty, and with regard to which the Governor-General will naturally expect from me the unreserved communication of my sentiments to those with whom I have the honor of being associated in the present most momentous undertaking.

Should this letter reach you within five days, I beg that you will make a liberal allowance to the bearer for his expenses, and assure him that on bringing your answer he shall be amply rewarded. He might be instructed to shew your reply to the first British officer whom he may meet on his return.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 141.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir W. Cotton.

(Extract.) *Camp, Rohtuck, February* 7, 1839.

HIS Lordship has heard with much gratification that the bridge across the Indus is nearly complete, and deems the exertions of the engineer officers employed in executing this important work deserving of the highest praise.

The measures adopted by you in making a strong demonstration in the direction of Hyderabad, pending the completion of the bridge, is judged by the Governor-General to be highly expedient, under the present position of affairs in Sinde; and he is glad to learn from you that the main object of the expedition need not, unless new events should occur, be delayed, in consequence of this movement, while he does not doubt but that the march of your troops will go far to contribute to the arrangement of Colonel Pottinger's negotiation.

No. 142.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Envoy and Minister with Shah Shooja.

Sir, *Camp, Rohtuck, February* 7, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of a letter of the 16th ultimo, from Sir A. Burnes, reporting, that the Chief of Khyrpore has consented to renounce, for ever, all right to toll on the River Indus throughout his territories; and in reply to state, that the result of your well-conducted negotiations is in itself a matter of much importance to the growing traffic on the Indus, and a source of sincere gratification to the Governor-General.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 143.

Brigadier Valiant to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, Kurachee, February* 8, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward for your information a copy of a Treaty with Hassel Ben Butcha Khan, Soobadar, and Synah Khan, on behalf of the Governors of the fort and town of Kurachee, and late Commandant of the fort, and Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Maitland, Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in the East Indies, and Brigadier Thomas Valiant, commanding the British reserve force in Sinde, on behalf of the Honorable East India Company, on the other part, dated 3rd of February, 1839.

A copy of the above has also been sent to the Secretary to Government in the Political department and the Military Secretary to the Commander-in-chief. The final approval of the original was delayed in consequence of the difficulty of having it translated into Persian.

I have, &c.,
T. VALIANT.

No. 144.

Agreement for the Surrender of Kurachee.

February 7, 1839.

HASSEL BEN BUTCHA KHAN, Soobadar, in the employ of the Governor of the fort and town of Kurachee, and late Commandant of the fort on the point at the entrance of the harbour, has been this third day

of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, sent on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Wellesley," by the said Governor (Khyer Mahomed), with full powers to treat with the British authorities for the surrender of the said fort and town of Kurachee, accompanied by Synah Khan, in the service of Meer Noor Mahomed, who had been sent for the same purpose by Ali Rakhi, to treat on the part of the Civil Government of the town.

It is, therefore, this day agreed by the said Hassel Ben Butcha Khan and Synah Khan, in the name of the said two Governors, on the one part, and by his Excellency Rear-Admiral Sir Frederick Lewis Maitland, K.C.B., Commander-in-chief of Her Britannic Majesty's naval forces in the East Indies, and Brigadier Thomas Valiant, K.H., commanding the British reserve military force in Sinde, in the name and on behalf of the Honorable East India Company, on the other part.

1. That the full possession of the fort and town of Kurachee shall be this day given up by the aforesaid Governor to the British forces.

2. That the British land forces under the command of the said Brigadier Valiant shall this day, or as soon after as the Brigadier may deem it convenient, be allowed to encamp near the town, and that such boats shall be supplied by the Native Government, as may be required by the British army, upon payment of the usual boat hire for them, as also such camels, and other means of conveyance, as may be hereafter necessary, upon the like terms; as well as that all kinds of provisions, and other supplies, shall be furnished for the use of the said British forces as they may stand in need of and require; the same being paid for at the usual rates of the country.

In consequence of the fulfilment of these terms, the British officers before mentioned agree, in the name of the Honorable East India Company, that the persons and property of all the inhabitants of the fort and town of Kurachee shall be held sacred, and that they shall be at liberty to carry on their business as heretofore; that their trading-vessels shall be allowed to enter the port and trade as usual without the slightest interruption; and further, that the civil government of Kurachee shall be carried on by the authorities of the place.

In witness whereof we have this third day of February, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, set our hands hereunto, on board Her Britannic Majesty's ship "Wellesley" off Kurachee.

FREDK. LEWIS MAITLAND, *Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief of H.B.M. Naval Forces in India.*
T. VALIANT, *Brigadier commanding Reserve Force in India.*
The ⋈ Mark of HASSEL BEN BUTCHA.
The ⋈ Mark of SYNAH KHAN.

We, whose signatures are hereunto attached, ratify the above as the acts of our servants, in which we fully concur.

The ⋈ Mark of KHYER MAHOMED.
The ⋈ Mark of ALI RAKHI

Witness this 7th day of February, 1839.
J. GRAY, *Her Majesty's 40th Regiment.*
T. POSTANS, *Lieutenant, Interpreter to Reserve Force.*

No. 145.

Sir John Keane to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, before Hyderabad, February* 8, 1839.

THE Resident in Sinde has now intimated to me, that the Treaty has been signed by the Ameers, and that the part which required to be immediately fulfilled, has been executed to his satisfaction; also, that he is satisfied, in his own mind, the result of the present arrangement will be permanent.

I am very happy, therefore, to be able to inform your Lordship, that I shall issue immediate orders for the march of this force, (and to be carried into effect the day after to-morrow) en route to Shikarpore. According to my present calculation, it will take us nine days to reach Sehwan, and, probably, thirteen or fourteen more to Shikarpore, in which case, the Bombay division will arrive there about the 4th or 5th of March, but, of course, your Lordship will be informed by me, from time to time, of our progress.

I am sorry to find that Colonel Pottinger has come to the conclusion, that he cannot, with a due regard to the discharge of the duties he has upon his hands, proceed beyond this with my camp. I shall feel sensibly his loss, and the want of the able support and cordial co-operation he has hitherto afforded me in Sinde, where his experience has made him feel so much at home with regard to all matters of business connected with this country and its inhabitants, of high and low degree.

I have, &c.,
J. KEANE.

No. 146.

Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, at Kundiana, February* 9, 1839.

I HAVE this moment received a dispatch from Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, authorizing me to countermarch this force immediately on Roree, and, consequently, the columns will be all in march to-morrow morning for that place, and with orders to cross the river, and move on Shikarpore, and I shall not halt until we all arrive at that place. It will be nine days' march from hence, and seven for General Nott's brigade and the camel battery.

Mr. Macnaghten wrote to me on the 7th, which I received during last night, wishing me to countermarch across the river. At that time I had only received Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane's directions to halt this column wherever the dispatch might find me, but not authorizing me to retrograde a yard: as things then wore an unsettled appearance, I did not know what Sir John Keane might wish to be done with the force, and as by the instructions both of your Lordship and the Commander-in-chief, I was directed to place myself under Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane's orders, and was, and am acting now accordingly, I wrote to Mr. Macnaghten how I was situated, and that, until Sir Sir John directed me, I could not stir; which he must evidently be aware of, but that I hoped and trusted twenty-four hours would enable me to meet his wishes.

Such has been the case, and I have apprised Mr. Macnaghten of our retrograde move, and that we shall close up at Shikarpore, and be ready for any future operation that may be contemplated.

I have, &c.,
W. COTTON.

No. 147.

The Governor-General to Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane.

Sir, *Camp, at Bahadurghur, February* 10, 1839.

INTELLIGENCE from Hyderabad, under date 23rd ultimo, has just reached me as to the apparent show of decided hostility on the part of the Ameers, including Meer Sobdar Khan, and I am induced to conclude that circumstances may have, ere this, established the British power as paramount in Sinde.

2. As I am of opinion that it will be very expedient to keep your Excellency fully in possession of my views at every period of the existing crisis, I deem it my duty to apprise you of the policy which seems to me advisable in the event of the virtual subjection of Sinde consequent on a general action.

3. Your Excellency will have been already in possession of my opinions, as to the inexpediency of any acquisition of territory in Sinde on the part of this Government. I look upon it as highly important that British troops should advance upon Candahar, without the impression attending their progress that they are employed to reduce Affghanistan into the condition of a province of our Indian Empire.

4. I do not conceive, however, that any specific declaration of our intentions as regards our future connexion with Sinde, are at present called for. It will be enough to disabuse the Khan of Kelat, and the Chiefs of other petty States and tribes intermediate between Sinde and the Candahar territory, of their fears as to being dispossessed of their country, or reduced to a state of wholly servile dependence on this Government; but, while this is done, military occupation may be taken, and held, of the country of the Ameers, pending the final settlement of our relations with Sinde, the revenue being collected, and the government administered, *ad interim*, by the native officers, under the superintendence of the Resident.

5. It will not be difficult to quiet the anxieties of the chiefs above named, or others similarly situated, by citing to them our conduct when free to exercise our principles of conciliation, and no better instance can be given than in the policy pursued towards the Nawab of Bhawulpore and the Meer of Khyrpore. When met by those through whose territories we are compelled to pass, with friendliness and cordial feeling, our course towards them is such as to confirm their power and guarantee their independence, admitting them to all the distinguished advantages of a British alliance. When, on the other hand, opposed in the attainment of an indispensable object by secret intrigue in the first instance, and subsequently by open hostility, the exertion of force becomes to us a duty.

6. Whatever may be the turn which affairs may take in Sinde, I have to impress upon your Excellency the absolute necessity, except in the case of exigencies which I will not for a moment contemplate, of pushing forward into Affghanistan the levy of His Majesty Shah Shooja, supported by a strong and commanding force of British troops. I do not anticipate that your Excellency will have real difficulty in effecting this, and I am assured that you will feel yourself in a position to hold Sinde in military occupancy without further present reinforcement. Every succeeding account adds to my conviction of the paramount importance of expediting the advance into Affghanistan.

7. A copy of this dispatch has been sent to Mr. Macnaghten, and I have to request that your Excellency will inform Colonel Pottinger of its tenor for his information and guidance.

I have, &c.,
AUCKLAND.

No. 148.

The Resident in Sinde to the Envoy with Shah Shooja.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, February* 10, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward a copy of a letter, of which the original has been sent to me by the Ameers of Hyderabad, with a most submissive message, begging that as they are now our humblest slaves, Larkhana, and any other towns that may have been occupied by our troops, may be given up.

2. I beg to add, that I am not aware of any political objection to a compliance with this request, but I have said it must rest on the orders you may have had from the Governor-General.

3. I have received ten lacs of rupees, in silver and gold, from the Ameers on account of the Shah.

4. The Bombay division, under the command of Sir John Keane, moved on this morning.

5. The reserve force under Colonel Valiant, took possession of

Kurachee on the 2d instant, after the naval Commander-in-chief had battered down, with the guns of the "Wellesley," the whole south face of the fort at the mouth of the harbour.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER

No. 149.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Shikarpore, February* 10, 1839.

IN continuation of my letter to your address, of yesterday's date, I have the honor to request that you will proceed, at your earliest convenience, to Khyrpore, and apprise Meer Roostum Khan of the terms of the Treaty entered into with the Ameers of Hyderabad, as far as you may be acquainted with them.

2. I apprehend that you have mistaken the memorandum which followed the Treaty, for the Treaty itself, a copy of which has not yet reached me, but I have good grounds for believing that some of its provisions are to the effect specified in the annexed paper.

3. Meer Roostum Khan cannot fail to perceive the immense advantages he has secured to himself by his early submission to the wishes of the British Government. At the same time I feel confident that the Governor-General will be disposed to grant to the Khyrpore Chief every reasonable indulgence; and you will be pleased to state, for the final determination of the Governor-General, the proportions in which the payment of seven lacs is to be made by Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Moobaruck, respectively, the grounds of your opinion, and the time to be allowed for the liquidation of the amount due.

4. This arrangement need not interfere with the movements of Sir Willoughby Cotton's army, and I should think it highly advisable that the troops should return and cross the bridge at Bukkur, if it is sufficiently secure, as being the easiest mode of getting to this side of the river. This, and my former suggestions regarding the movements of the force under the command of Sir W. Cotton, of course suppose that the Major-General has received no direct instructions on the subject from Sir John Keane.

5. I beg you will do me the favor of forwarding a copy of this letter for the consideration of Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton.

6. Under any circumstances it seems evident, from the tenor of Colonel Pottinger's dispatches, that Sir John Keane is not now in need of assistance from this quarter.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 150.

Sir A. Burnes to the Envoy with Shah Shooja.

Sir, *Camp, Army of the Indus, February* 12, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, and beg to report that I made known the day before yesterday, to Meer Roostum Khan's Ministers, who that day arrived in camp to wait on his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, the whole terms of the Treaty of 23 Articles. The Treaty passed through Roree some days before you arrived.

2. With reference to the 3rd paragraph of your letter, requesting me to state, for the final determination of the Governor-General, the grounds of my opinion as to the proportions of payment by the Khyrpore Ameers:

they are, as previously given, that Meer Roostum Khan and all his brothers be entirely excused, and that such sum as is to be taken from this family fall on Meer Moobaruck Khan; if the whole seven lacs is to be demanded of him, one-third of it should be paid down, and the rest in separate instalments, to be regulated after the manner which Colonel Pottinger may decide on at Hyderabad.

3. This arrangement will not interfere with the march of Sir W. Cotton's force, which will cross the Indus with all practicable expedition.

4. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, conveying your sentiments on the demand of money from Meer Roostum Khan, and am glad to observe that the subject of Meer Moobaruck's payments is one which may be left for future determination. It is not for the temporary cession of Bukkur that I have ventured to solicit his Lordship's indulgence to the Khyrpore Chief, but for his steady and faithful conduct under trying difficulties, the last of which was the granting of a road to Hyderabad; and I only echo the voice of all the Sindians, when I record that, to the cession of Bukkur, and the demonstration of the army of the Indus, we owe the rapid adjustment of affairs at Hyderabad, and the happy result of our now being enabled to carry into effect the highly important operations of the Governor-General to the west.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 151.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sinde Residency, February* 13, 1839.

I LAST did myself the honor to report my proceedings, for the information of the Governor-General of India, in my letter of the 21st of December.

2. I now proceed to bring them up in a connected form to this day.

3. I have, since the above date, addressed many letters to you, which I shall merely advert to in this summary, as I hope they will all have reached you.

4. The force under the personal command of Sir John Keane moved from Vikkur on the 24th of December, and arrived at Tatta on the 28th of that month.

5. His Excellency was there met by a deputation of officers of high rank from each of the Ameers. The head of the deputation was Meer Jan Khan Talpoor, and next to him was the Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee, Noor Mahomed Khan's Prime Minister.

6. These officers were received by the Commander-in-chief; they wished to supply all kinds of provisions for his Excellency's table, which was politely refused, and they were informed that all that we wanted was carriage for the army. I heard from the Native Agent, that they had been sent to oblige us to hasten out of the country, and I sent a message to them to say that was the very thing we required the means of doing.

7. On the 6th of January, I was honored by the receipt of your letter of the 13th of December, in answer to mine of the 19th and 23rd of the preceding month. I acknowledged that letter the same day, and I stated my views with reference to the intelligence which reached me with it (since proved to be incorrect), from Sir Alexander Burnes, of Lieutenant Pottinger's having left Herat, and a coalition between Kamran Shah and the Baruckzye Chiefs.

8. On the 11th of January I addressed you on the subject of the reserve force being landed at Vikkur instead of Kurachee, and again on the 15th of that month, explaining my reasons for having deviated from my original plan of not opening my negotiations with the Hyderabad Gvoernment until our army was opposite the capital. In this letter I

submitted a Draft of the Treaty I intended to propose to the Ameers, as well as my instructions to Captain Eastwick, whom I had resolved to depute to Hyderabad.

9. The day after Captain Eastwick left Tatta, accompanied by Captain Outram, Aide-de-camp to the Commander-in-chief, I had a message from the Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee (Meer Jan Khan Talpoor had previously returned to the capital, on the plea of his father's illness), to ask me on what business those officers had been sent. I deferred for two days giving any answer, as I wished the Treaty to be previously with the Ameers. I then sent my Moonshee to show the draft of that document to the Nawab and his colleagues. They expressed their surprise at its tenor, and made several applications to me to be ordered back to Hyderabad, as they declared the Ameers neither would nor could come to any decision till they returned. To all these applications I invariably said, that they might go or stay as they chose, that I thought their going would look ill at that moment, and that if it led to any disturbance at Tatta they would be of course responsible. After hesitating for two days they all went off clandestinely, and the next I heard of them was that they were all, and especially the Nawab Ahmed Khan, urging the Ameers to resist our demands.

10. About this period an unfortunate affair happened at Tatta, which I think it right to report for his Lordship's notice. Much pains had been taken to prevent spirituous liquor being smuggled into camp and sold to the European troops. A Beloochee was caught in the fact, and brought to my tent; my Moonshee (who is a native of Tatta) happened to be with me, and explained to the man that he would be sent to the Nawab Ahmed Khan, to be punished for a breach of rules laid down for the good of all parties. The man on the way to the guard in which he was to be placed till I had leisure to send him to Ahmed Khan, drew his sword, made a desperate cut at a corporal of Her Majesty's 17th Foot (who parried it with his firelock), and got clear away, running through the tents in the head-quarter lines, shouting and waving his sword over his head. A sepoy of the 19th Regiment Native Infantry, standing sentry over one of the Commander-in-chief's store tents, seeing the Beloochee approaching him, loaded his musket with praiseworthy alacrity and shot the Beloochee dead on the spot.

11. The body was immediately removed, and I sent to the Nawab that evening to express Sir John Keane's and my own deep regret at the business, explaining that the Beloochee had wantonly brought his fate on himself, but saying I would give his family, notwithstanding, either some clothes, or such a sum of money as the Nawab might suggest. The Nawab and his colleagues talked very big about the death of one of the Beloochees, hinted he might have been taken alive (which could only have been done by some one risking his life in rushing on him), and ended by observing that Noor Mahomed Khan had frequently been obliged to go to beg pardon for such accidents, and that the only way that it could be properly hushed up was for me to be the bearer in person of the clothes to be given to the deceased's relations. It is needless to say I spurned the idea, and the matter ended by my apprising the deputation that if the smallest act of revenge, on the lowest man in our army, was either perpetrated or attempted, I would make Noor Mahomed Khan (whose servant the Beloochee was) responsible. This plain speaking silenced them, and when the news got to Hyderabad, the Ameers gave out that the man who had been killed "was a dog, and richly merited his fate."

12. On the 19th of January, I transmitted to you, copies of a variety of letters connected with the reserve force, which it was still my intention to disembark at Vikkur, if the Treaty was accepted.

13. The force moved from Tatta on the 23rd and arrived at Jerruck on the 25th of January. Everything at that moment denoted the early commencement of hostilities. Our cossids had been stopped throughout the country. From 15,000 to 20,000 men of the Sinde army had been collected at Hyderabad. The officers of the Residency had been obliged to quit that place, the Native Agent was placed under a guard, and the large supply of forage and grain which had been collected for the use of

our army, was plundered and destroyed by the Beloochees, who (the Native Agent wrote to me secretly) "panted for the combat." On the 27th of January I addressed a demi-official letter to the Governor of Bombay, with a copy of which, I have since heard, the Governor-General has been furnished from Bombay.

14. On the 31st of January I sent you copies of different letters, shewing that I had ordered the reserve to go to Kurachee and to put down all opposition. I intimated to the Ameers on the 30th, through their deputation, the only terms I would accept. I warned them distinctly, that if a gun, or even a matchlock, were fired, they should lose their country. I made a marked distinction between Meer Sobdar Khan and the other Ameers. He had sent secretly to the Native Agent to say that nothing should ever induce him to fight with us, that at the last moment he would draw off his people, that I should see that there was, at least, one Beloochee, who could adhere to his word, even at the risk of his own and his children's lives. To confirm these messages, he wrote to me publicly alluding to them, and saying, that I was to believe all I had heard of his friendship and that of the other Ameers, which I could fully understand: exclusive of the undeniable claims which his fidelity to us gave, I deemed it of high political importance to keep him our friend, in order that we might set him up as the sole head of the State, had the other Ameers compelled us to depose them.

15. On the 1st of February, I reported to you, the acceptance of the Treaty, and my other terms, by the Ameers. On the 4th of this month the army arrived opposite Hyderabad. I was that morning honored by your letter of the 11th of January, to which I immediately replied. That afternoon I received intelligence from Kurachee, that his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-chief in Her Majesty's ship "Wellesley" had battered down the south face of the Fort, at the mouth of the harbour of Kurachee, in consequence of the authorities there refusing to let the reserve force land. This intelligence afforded me the highest degree of gratification, and I expressed what I felt on the occasion, in my letter of that evening to his Lordship's private secretary, of which I now inclose a copy. The next day the 5th, I received positive accounts that a part of the Bengal division, as well as of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk's army, had actually moved to support the Bombay division. In anticipation of such a movement being ordered, I had before written to countermand it, and I repeated my request to the British Envoy and Minister at the Shah's Court.

16. On the 6th instant, Meer Sobdar sent his eldest son, Meer Futteh Ali, to visit the Commander-in-chief, apologizing for not coming himself on account of the infirmity of epilepsy with which he is afflicted, and which prevents him going abroad except in a palanquin. On the 7th, Meers Shahdad and Hoossein Ali, the eldest sons of Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khan, came for the same purpose. I got a message from the two principal Ameers just named, and Meer Mahomed, offering to come down to the bank of the river if his Excellency would honor them by a visit, but declining to cross on account of the number of Beloochees who would come with them. On this subject letters passed between his Excellency and myself, and, as they are on a strictly official point on which his Excellency did me the honor to be guided by my sentiments, I think it my duty to forward transcripts of them.

17. The Ameers began to pay the money for Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk on the 7th instant, and the first instalment of ten lacs was completed by the evening of the 9th. Their Highnesses wanted me to accept a quantity of silver plate, (dishes, &c., &c.,) in part, which I peremptorily refused. I have stipulated that the gold and silver shall be received at the bazaar price of the day, and that any difference for or against the Ameers shall be adjusted in the last instalment. This ten lacs I have sent, under charge of Captain Scott of the 23rd Regiment of Native Infantry, to Mr. Macnaghten. I found it impossible to get it packed and secured as I could have wished, for neither boxes, nor even a few nails, could be had at this place, and I did not wish to retract my intimation, "that the army should not pass Hyderabad till it was in my hands." I hope, however, it will all reach safe.

18. During each of the days that the force was here, that is, from the 4th to the 10th instant, I was tormented amidst my more important concerns, by almost hourly deputations and messages from the Ameers. It would be idle to trouble his Lordship with the nonsense they talked, to all of which I held but one tone, and that was the future total and unqualified submission of the Hyderabad rulers to the pleasure of the Governor-General, as the only chance that remained of their forgiveness. Amongst other questions they put to me was, whether any portion of the sum to be paid here to the Shah would be remitted in case the Governor-General thought fit to excuse the whole, or a part, of what was fixed for Khyrpore, and which, they added, Sir A. Burnes had positively agreed should not be levied. To this I replied, that I knew nothing of any such agreement; that I did not credit that it had been made; that the question rested on the pleasure of his Lordship; and that whatever decision might be pronounced, it could in no way affect what had been arranged here.

19. After giving the matter due consideration, I intimated on the 7th instant to Sir John Keane, my deep regret that I could not accompany the army beyond this place, but that I proposed to send Captain Eastwick, to whom I issued instructions to this effect on the 8th.

20. On the 9th instant, I wrote, in reply to a letter I had received from the Naval Commander-in-chief and Brigadier Valiant, my entire approval of, and concurrence in, all that had been done at Kurachee. I will address you in a separate dispatch, regarding that place, and it is here only necessary to state, that the matter shall be kept open for the final consideration and decision of his Lordship. The Ameers have not even ventured to send me a message about it, for they know full well they have only our mercy and liberality to trust to; and to a deputation that has been with me this day, since I sat down to write this dispatch, (regarding Mahomed Ibrahim the Candahar vakeel, and on which I will report separately,) I have distinctly and unequivocally stated so, and warned them of the final and inevitable consequences of one false step.

21. I now beg to forward the four Treaties under the seals of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Sobdar Khan, Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan; my instructions of the 13th of January to Captain Eastwick, are so explanatory, that they preclude the necessity of my here trespassing on his Lordship's time by further remarks; the Ameers struck out the name of Syud Ismael Shah in the preamble, and it ought not to be inserted in the ratified copies. The Governor-General is to fix the kind of rupees to be paid by the three Ameers, as provided for by Article III. I said it should be Company's, but they intreated me to refer this one point.

23. I trust that what I have done will be honored by the Governor-General's sanction; I have endeavoured to do what I believe coincided with his Lordship's wishes. Every man in Sinde has seen that we had the country at our feet, that our armies were ready simultaneously to overwhelm all opposition, and (as I told the Ameers) to come from all quarters "like the inundation of the Indus." I hope, and think what has been here effected and seen, will have a great moral effect on his Lordship's designs and measures to the north-west; that it will also awe those who may be inimical to us in India cannot be doubted. It has been, and will be, my study to inculcate this impression; and the world will now acknowledge that if our power is great, our good faith and forbearance are still more to be wondered at.

23. I beg to distinctly record that I anticipate no such event; but, if we are ever again obliged to exert our military strength in Sinde, it must be carried to subjugating this country. The hold we have already got on many of the lower classes will strengthen daily. The boatmen all refused to quit our service when they thought war was at hand, and such was the confidence in us, that we found all the villages on the route of the army peopled and quiet, notwithstanding the base means tried to frighten the inhabitants away. I should fail in a most gratifying part of my duty, did I omit to mention the extraordinary good behaviour of our troops and followers. At Vikkur, for weeks there were heaps of grain (unmeasured)

lying in the middle of the camp. At Tatta and this place, gardens and fields of standing grain were surrounded by tents, yet there was hardly a complaint, and the forward march of the army, instead of being wished for, was lamented by the people as a calamity. During the experience of a long public life, I never either saw, or heard, or read, of such facts, and I doubt not but they will be appreciated by his Lordship the Governor-General.

No. 152.

Treaty between the British and Hyderabad Governments, as concluded by the Resident in Sinde.

WHEREAS Treaties of Friendship and Amity have from time to time been entered into between the British and Hyderabad Governments, and whereas circumstances have lately occurred which render it expedient and necessary to revise those Treaties, with a view to which this Draft has been prepared agreeable to instructions addressed by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, Governor-General of India, &c., &c., to Colonel Henry Pottinger, Resident in Sinde, &c., &c., *on the part of the British Government, and by Meer Mahomed Ismael Shah, on behalf of the Ameers of Hyderabad.**

ARTICLE I.

There shall be lasting friendship, alliance, and amity between the Honorable East India Company and the Hyderabad Government, and the provisions of all former Treaties, not modified or annulled by the present one, are hereby confirmed.

ARTICLE II.

The Governor-General of India has commanded that a British force shall be kept in Sinde, and stationed at the city of Tatta, where a cantonment will be formed. The strength of this force is to depend on the pleasure of the Governor-General of India, but will not exceed 5,000 men.

ARTICLE III.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, bind themselves to pay annually the sum of three lacs of rupees in part of the expense of the force, from the presence of which their respective territories will derive such vast advantages.

ARTICLE IV.

The Chiefs of the Beloochee tribes, and all others holding grants (jaeedads), pensions (wazeefas), jagheers (tesols), &c. from the different Ameers, are to continue to enjoy them, as they now do, at the pleasure of their Highnesses; the Ameers being answerable for the peaceable conduct towards the British Government and its subjects, of the chiefs, &c., respectively appertaining to them.

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* N.B. The words in italic have been omitted by the Ameers, and are not to be inserted in the ratified copies.

RTICLE V.

The British Government pledges itself neither to interfere in any degree, small or great, in the internal management or affairs of the several possessions of the Ameers, nor to think of introducing in any shape its regulations or adawluts.

ARTICLE VI.

The British Government pledges itself on no pretence to listen to complaints of the Beloochee Chiefs, or any other subjects, whether Mussulmans, Hindoos, or other castes, against their Highnesses, nor in any way encourage them.

ARTICLE VII.

The British Government agrees to protect Sinde from all foreign aggression.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Company's rupee being exactly of the same value as that called the Bakkroo or Tymoree, it is to be considered current in the British cantonment and this country at the same rate; but in every case when the British Government may have to coin any of the rupees now in circulation in Sinde, the seignorage or dues of the Sinde Government shall be paid agreeable to the custom of the country.

ARTICLE IX.

Should any Ameer attack or injure the possessions of another Ameer, or those of his dependents, the Resident in Sinde will, on being applied to by both sides, and on receiving the sanction of the Governor-General of India, act as mediator between them; but it is to be distinctly understood that he (the Resident) is not to intermeddle in trifling points.

ARTICLE X.

Should any Beloochee or other Chief rebel against the authority of the Ameer to whom he appertains, or attack the lands or other possessions of any other Ameer or Chief, and the Ameer to whom he appertains shall declare his inability to coerce such Chief, the Governor-General will take the case into consideration on its being submitted to his Lordship by the Resident, and will, should his Lordship see sufficient reason, order such assistance to be given as may be requisite to punish the offender.

ARTICLE XI.

Their Highnesses the Ameers agree to form no new Treaties, or enter into any engagements with Foreign States, without the knowledge of the British Government, but their Highnesses will of course carry on friendly correspondence, as usual, with all their neighbours.

ARTICLE XII.

The British Government agrees, on its part, not to form any Treaty or enter into any engagement that can possibly affect the interests of Sinde, without the concurrence and knowledge of their Highnesses the Ameers.

ARTICLE XIII.

During the months of the year that vessels cannot enter the mouths of the Indus, the communication between Bombay and Sinde by sea is to be carried on by Kurachee Bunder, and should it at any time be requisite to send public stores to that place, every facility is to be afforded by the Sinde authorities to their being landed and forwarded under a guard, which will be sent from Tatta to receive and watch them, but no expense is to be thrown on the Ameers of Sinde.

ARTICLE XIV.

The Ameers agree to either build, or allow the British Government to build an inclosure and storehouse at Kurachee as a depôt for stores; their Highnesses incurring no sort of expense on this account, and being repaid (should they build the inclosure, &c.) for any outlay they may incur.

ARTICLE XV.

Should any British merchants or others bring goods by the way of Kurachee Bunder, the duties of the Sinde Government (both import and transit) will be paid on them agreeable to the custom of the country, and no exemption from such duties shall be claimed.

ARTICLE XVI

Amongst the great objects of the Governor-General in fixing a British force in Sinde, is that of perfecting the arrangements which have been in progress for several years for opening the Indus to traders, and as the thoroughfare will now be increased a hundredfold, the contracting Governments agree to abolish all tolls on the river from the sea to Ferozepore.

ARTICLE XVII.

To protect the interests of the different Governments from any loss that might arise from the unrestricted intercourse provided for in the preceding Article, it is hereby agreed, that all goods landed and sold (except those that are sold in the British cantonment or camp), shall be subject to duties, agreeable to the usage of Sinde and the other States on that point, and no exemption shall be made to this stipulation.

ARTICLE XVIII.

Goods of all kinds may be brought by merchants and others to the mouths of the Indus (Gorabaree) at the proper season, and kept there at the pleasure of the owners, till the best period of the year for sending them up the river; but should any merchant land and sell any part of his merchandize either at Gorabaree, or anywhere else (except at the British cantonment) such merchant shall pay the usual duties on them.

ARTICLE XIX.

Should the British Government at any time require and apply for the aid of the army of Sinde, their Highnesses the Ameers agree to furnish it according to their means, and in any such case, the troops thus applied for are not to exceed 3,000 men, are not to proceed beyond the frontier of Sinde, and are to be paid for by the British Government.

ARTICLE XX.

The terms of this Treaty, except the IIIrd Article, are to be considered applicable to his Highness Meer Sobdar Khan of Hyderabad.

ARTICLE XXI.

A separate Treaty has been made between the British Government and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

ARTICLE XXII.

Should Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore wish it, a Treaty on the basis of this one will be made with him.

ARTICLE XXIII.

The British Government undertakes to guarantee to the different Ameers, their heirs and successors, on their acquiescing in the terms of this Treaty, the perpetual enjoyment of their respective possessions; and the friends and enemies of the one part, shall be friends and enemies of the other.

This Treaty of Twenty-three Articles having been concluded and signed and sealed, its ratification by the Right Honorable the Governor-General shall be exchanged within forty days from this date.

Done at Hyderabad on this fifth day of February, 1839, A.D., corresponding with the twentieth day of Jeerod, in the 1254th year of the Hegira.

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 153.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Shikarpore, February 13, 1839.*

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date.

2. The sentiments which you have now stated are not sufficiently in detail to enable me to form any opinion of the propriety of your recommendation, and I am of opinion that the whole question had better be left open to the decision of the Governor-General, on the report of Colonel Pottinger.

3. I am very doubtful as to the expediency of exempting Meer Roostum Khan from all payment, and I am not aware on what grounds you suggest the payment of the whole by Meer Moobaruck, or your reasons for supposing that he has the means of paying the whole.

4. I shall send copies of this correspondence to the officiating secretary to Government, and to Colonel Pottinger.

5. I beg you will acquaint me whether you have received a copy of the Treaty from Colonel Pottinger, since it was agreed to by the Hyderabad Ameers. If you have, I beg you will be so good as to furnish me with a copy of it.

I have, &c.,

W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 154.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde, February* 16, 1839.

IN conformity with the intention expressed in the 19th paragraph of my dispatch of the 13th instant, I have the honor to address you, for the information of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, regarding Kurachee.

2. To obviate the necessity for my entering into any lengthened detail, I beg to submit three original letters (with their accompaniments) from his Excellency the naval Commander-in-chief, severally dated the 3rd, 5th, and 8th instant, also a transcript of one of the 5th instant from Colonel Valiant, commanding the Sinde reserve force, to the address of the military Secretary to Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane, Commander-in-chief of the Army of the Indus.

3. These documents will put his Lordship fully in possession of the progress of events at Kurachee, and will also show the decided opinion of the above-named high authorities as to the advantage of our retaining possession of the fort of Manorah at the mouth of the harbour; an opinion in which, I beg to say, I most strongly coincide.

4. The Ameers have not, till this hour, made any kind of application to me on the subject of Kurachee; but I had a very extraordinary message two days ago, from Noor Mahomed Khan, through our Native Agent, recommending me not to restore the fort. His Highness said, that our keeping it would give confidence to the people of Kurachee, and demonstrate our power, as well as that the two Governments had really become one; that he was now resolved to make himself strong through us, and that he only asked the favour of my not making his sentiments known to the Beloochee chiefs, on conversing with them (when they might visit me) on past events, of which the most of them were ignorant, and on which they seized to taunt him and his relations.

5. I believe this latter observation had reference to my having pointed out to Gholam Shah Lugharee, the Governor of Vikkur, who had waited on me with a request on behalf of Meer Nusseer Khan, the advisability of the early polite dismissal of Mahomed Ibrahim, the Candahar vakeel, now here, which I am told is to be done immediately. The vakeel in question has begged leave to wait on me, to which I have assented; and, when I have seen him, I will report what passes, as well as all I have heard of the object of his mission to this place.

6. The only persons in whom the Ameers seem to put confidence just now, are Syud Ismael Shah and his family, and I believe they have really exerted themselves to prevent a rupture. They have all visited India frequently, and are much better acquainted with our power and policy than any other people in Sinde. The advice they have lately given, no doubt, chiefly proceeds from self-advantage; but it might be desirable to retain them in our own interest, which from their avaricious habits, could be effectually done by granting to them a small pension for the lives of Syud Ismael Shah (who is now eighty years of age) and his three sons, Tukkee Shah, Sadik Shah, and Zynoolabdeen Shah.

7. I intend to inform the Ameers when they apply to me regarding Kurachee, that I have referred the affair for his Lordship's final commands; that we will, in the interim, interfere in no respect with the civil government of the town, but that I think it probable his Lordship will determine on keeping military possession of the fort of Manorah, at least, during the pending operations in Affghanistan.

8. I shall request Brigadier Valiant to send one of the two regiments of native infantry now at Kurachee, and a part of the artillery, to Tatta, as soon as carriage can be obtained, and to keep Her Majesty's 40th Foot, one regiment of native infantry, and the rest of the artillery, at Kurachee, until I am honored with instructions. The head-quarters of the detachment of irregular horse that came from Cutch under Captain Ward will also be at Tatta, and the wing of the 22nd Regiment now at

Vikkur will move to that city as soon as the season is quite closed at the mouths of the river, and the whole of the treasure, stores, &c., have been forwarded.

9. I hope all these arrangements will meet with the approbation of his Lordship the Governor-General.

10. I have, in conclusion, to beg that copies (if necessary) of the original letters which I now transmit may be taken, and those documents returned to me to be preserved at this Residency in case reference to them should ever hereafter be required.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

P.S. Instead of the dispatches from his Excellency the Naval Commander-in-chief, referred to in the 2nd paragraph, copies of two communications from Brigadier Valiant, accompany this letter.

No. 155.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, Alipore, February* 21, 1839.

THE Governor-General of India having received information of your proceedings in the negotiation of a treaty with the Ameers of Sinde up to the 1st instant, though the details of the arrangement, and a copy of the Articles, as finally drawn out and agreed upon, have not yet reached his Lordship, I am directed to communicate the following observations, which his Lordship thinks may be useful for your guidance, in anticipation of the final orders which it will be necessary to issue when the treaty, with your report thereon, is submitted for ratification.

2. By the 2d Article of the draft of a treaty received with your letter of the 15th ultimo, the city of Tatta is the place fixed upon for the cantonment of the British force to be maintained in the territories of Sinde. His Lordship is of course not aware of any alteration having taken place in the terms of this Article with respect to the place for the cantonment. But, from all the information which has reached the Governor-General from various sources, respecting the locality and the climate of Tatta and its vicinity, his Lordship will be happy to find, when your final treaty is laid before him, that no such positive stipulation has been admitted. The most proper site for a permanent British military post in Sinde must be a subject for very careful consideration, in communication with the military authorities. In the mean time, however, I am directed to express to you the strong opinion of the Governor-General, that Kurachee is in many respects a more eligible situation to select for the present cantonment of the British force. It has the advantage of greater salubrity, and of possessing the only good harbour in Sinde, and the communication from thence to Bombay will be open to our steamers at all seasons of the year: while great facilities are said to exist for perfecting the inland communication between that town and Tatta, and the great streams of the Indus.

3. The Treaty, it appears possible, was finally accepted before intelligence was received in your camp or at Hyderabad of the bombardment of the port of Kurachee by Her Majesty's ship "Wellesley," and of its having come into the possession of the British Government,—an event which was followed by the submission of the town. But, as this was a conquest achieved by the British forces, in consequence of the opposition of the officers of the Sinde Government, under whose directions the first hostile shot was fired against the British armament, our position, as the conquerors of the town and fort, will not be in any way affected by the tardy compliance of the Ameers with the terms of the treaty proposed to them by you; and the surrender of that conquest would, therefore, under any circumstances, necessarily become a subject of convention and renewed negotiation, the terms of which would require the assent or ratification of the Governor-General.

4. His Lordship is disposed to attach so much value to this acquisition, that it is not his intention to admit any proposition for its abandonment as a military post at this time; and you can proceed in all your communications with the Sinde Government upon this understanding. It is believed that the civil government of the place was left, after military occupation was obtained of it, in the hands of the Sinde local officers.

5. During the continuance of the intended operations in Affghanistan, his Lordship would consider the presence of a strong force at or near Shikarpore (which would be at all events required as a reserve to the advancing army), together with that of the troops already collected at Kurachee, as a sufficient and the most convenient means of ensuring the good conduct of the Ameers, as well as of preserving the communications by the sea with Bombay. It is possible that this arrangement would also be the most acceptable to the Ameers themselves, as it would save them from the degradation which might be implied by the establishment of a British force more immediately near their capital.

6. You have no doubt, since the signature of the Treaty, received applications on the subject of Kurachee from the Sinde Government, and have forwarded them for the orders of the Governor-General. But this communication will put you in possession of his Lordship's sentiments, and, it is hoped, will relieve you from any embarrassment which you may have felt while awaiting his Lordship's instructions on this subject, at the same time that it will enable you to commence without loss of time preparations for cantoning the troops at such a spot in the neighbourhood of Kurachee as the military authorities, on consulting with the chief medical officers now on the spot, may select for the purpose.

7. You will have the goodness to communicate a copy of the above paragraphs of this dispatch to Lieutenant-General Sir John Keane.

8. The Governor-General has directed me to add that, on the receipt of the sum of ten lacs of rupees, the immediate payment of which has been agreed to by the Ameers, the amount may be appropriated, in the first instance, to the service of the force advancing towards Candahar, and forwarded for that purpose immediately to Shikarpore, where temporary inconvenience in regard to funds might otherwise be experienced. Any adjustment of accounts consequent upon this payment, may hereafter be effected under his Lordship's directions.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 156.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to Lieutenant Eastwick.

(Extract.) *Shikarpore, March* 4, 1839.

YOU are aware that it is, in the opinion of Sir John Keane and myself, highly expedient that some political officer should remain in the neighbourhood for the present, until the return of Sir A. Burnes, or until the receipt of instructions from the Governor-General.

2. It occurs to me that no fitter officer than yourself could be selected for this duty; and though I am aware that Colonel Pottinger has directed your return to Hyderabad, I trust that he will approve of your detention when he is apprised of the exigency of the case.

3. I do not consider it necessary, nor would it be easily practicable, to furnish you with minute instructions for your guidance. You are aware that, as regards the payment to be made by the Ameers of Khyrpore, nothing has as yet been definitively settled, and you will of course act in this matter according to the instructions which may be furnished to you by Colonel Pottinger or the Governor-General.

5. I send you a khureeta from myself to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, of which a copy accompanies for your information. I would further suggest your making a communication to the Ameers of Hyderabad, through Colonel Pottinger, should he be still there, that it has been found necessary to leave several native battalions in this neighbourhood

for want of the means of carriage, which they might be requested to supply, with a view of facilitating the onward movement of the troops. There is one contingency, however, of which it is proper the Ameers should be apprised, namely, that, until our operations shall have been brought to a successful close, it may be expedient, in the opinion of the Governor-General and the Commader-in-chief, that a strong force should be cantoned in this neighbourhood. You should make a communication to this effect to Meer Roostum Khan, and I shall request Colonel Pottinger, should he see no objection, to make a similar communication to the Ameers of Hyderabad.

6. I shall forward a copy of this letter for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General; and with reference to the delicate state of Colonel Pottinger's health, his Lordship will probably take measures for relieving you, and enabling you to return to Hyderabad, by deputing Dr. Gordon from Bhawulpore to Khyrpore, or by such other means as to his Lordship may seem more advisable.

No. 157.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to Meer Roostum Khan.

AS I am about to leave this place to-morrow with Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk and his army, I think it necessary that some gentleman of rank should be left to carry on communications with you on all matters that may arise; I have therefore directed Lieutenant Eastwick, assistant to Colonel Pottinger, to take upon himself this duty until the further orders of the Governor-General shall be received. You are required to communicate all your wishes to him without reserve, and you will be pleased to consider all his acts as authorized. Be it known to you, that, on account of want of carriage, some battalions will be left in this neighbourhood; with regard to them, any orders that the Governor-General may issue, will be conformed to.

No. 158.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Envoy and Minister at the Court of Shah Shooja.

Sir, *Camp, Seelakheree, March 4*, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th ultimo, and its inclosures, on the subject of exempting Meer Roostum Khan from payment of his portion of the seven lacs of rupees payable under the Treaty of Hyderabad, and to acquaint you in reply, that in the opinion of the Governor-General, Meer Roostum Khan's late good conduct in facilitating the operations of the British force, and the value of the cession of Bukkur in a political point of view, have entitled him to exemption from contributing to the payment in question, and that this exemption should be placed on the same grounds as that of Meer Sobdar Khan.

2. With respect to the ability of Meer Moobaruck Khan to make good the whole sum of the seven lacs of rupees, and the severity with which the imposition would fall upon his resources, his Lordship will expect the communication of your sentiments, after your consultation with Sir A. Burnes on the subject.

3. But I am, at the same time, desired to state that his Lordship is fully satisfied, from the reports both of that officer and Colonel Pottinger, that Meer Moobaruck has, by his unceasing hostility to British objects, wholly deprived himself of claims to special consideration, and that his Lordship is therefore decidedly of opinion that that chief should be required to contribute towards the payment in the same proportion to his means as

has been acceded to by the three Ameers at Hyderabad, and that he should also be required to contribute to the expense of the British force, on which account each of those Ameers is to pay annually one lac of rupees.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 159.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Camp, Seelakheree, March* 4, 1839.

IN the case of Meer Moobaruck at Khyrpore, to which you allude in your dispatch of the 21st of January, the Governor-General quite agrees with you that a distinction should be made between the treatment shewn to him, and accorded to the well-disposed members of the family. It is his intention, upon this principle, to require from that individual a proper contribution towards the payment to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, of any demands from which his brother Meer Roostum Khan will be wholly exempted.

No. 160.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, Seelakheree, March* 4, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th ultimo, forwarding Lieutenant Eastwick's narrative of his proceedings at Hyderabad, when deputed there by you to procure the assent of the Ameers to the stipulations of the treaty since concluded.

2. In the absence of a copy of that treaty, and of your report, which may be expected to accompany it, the receipt of which the Governor-General has for several days been anxiously expecting, his Lordship has ordered me to communicate to you, for the information of Lieutenant Eastwick, his full approbation of that officer's conduct during his mission to Hyderabad, on which occasion the firmness and ability which he displayed are duly appreciated by the Governor-General.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 161.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sinde Residency, March* 7, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acquaint you, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that since the date of my dispatch of the 13th ultimo, everything has gone on here exactly as I would wish.

2. I crossed the river to the Hyderabad side on the morning of the 15th ultimo. I have been too unwell to go up to Hyderabad (two miles distant) to pay my respects to the Ameers, but they have all sent their sons to inquire after my health, and Noor Mahomed Khan himself rode down in the evening of the 4th to pay me a visit, attended by a very small retinue of eight or ten persons.

3. The tone of his Highness's conversation was most friendly and becoming; he assured me that he had seen his mistake in his demeanour towards the British Government, that he trusted his future conduct would prove the faithfulness with which he unequivocally professed his submission to the pleasure of the Governor-General; he had now cause to com-

prehend our power as well as our good faith and forbearance; that he trusted to his Lordship the Governor-General to overlook all that had passed; and that he hoped and believed that the hereditary jealousy and distrust with which many of the Belooch tribes viewed our permanent establishment in Sinde, would shortly give way to more kindly feelings and to reciprocity of interests.

4. I had previously had messages to the same purport from the whole of the Ameers, including Noor Mahomed Khan, and to them all, as well as to his Highness's personal communication, I declared my high satisfaction at their avowed sentiments, as well as my assurance that our policy towards this country in times to come, solely depended on themselves, because, as long as they rigidly acted up to the engagements they had lately entered into, they would find us equally scrupulous in adhering to ours; whilst, on the other hand, any backsliding or deviation on their sides, would leave us, I remarked, at perfect liberty to adopt our own course; and, after what they had just seen, they must know and feel they were in our power.

5. I begged them all to look back, particularly to the important events of the last six months, and reflect, if they had the slightest cause to question our fair dealing and desire to keep on good terms with them. I said, that they had themselves literally imposed on us the necessity of dictating the arrangements provided for by the late treaty; and that they must henceforward consider Sinde to be (as it was in reality) a portion of Hindoostan, in which our position made us paramount, and intitled us to act as we considered best and fittest for the general good of the whole empire.

6. Noor Mahomed Khan in person, and the different deputations from the other Ameers, admitted the truth of my observations. They said their "eyes had been opened," that they had been taught their experience of our strength and good faith; that their wavering had arisen more from ignorance than design; that they had judged of us as they would have done of each other; that they now saw their error, and were most solicitous to rectify it, and that even in what had passed, allowance should be made for the difficulty of their situation in having to overcome the strong prejudice and apprehensions of their tribes who had always been led to think that our only object was to extend our dominion.

7. It would be, doubtless, ridiculous to place perfect reliance on all these assertions, but at the same time it would be equally so to deny that there is considerable ground for them, and in a variety of instances the Ameers have shown an earnest inclination to act up to their assertions. They have summoned the head man at Liknow, who behaved with such insolent rudeness when the army passed that district, and have placed him in the stocks of the city in the public bazaar, where he is now confined. They have seized the kardar of the village of Majindah, where a sepoy of a native regiment was robbed and ill treated, and have promised to make examples of the robbers, as well as to make good the sepoy's losses to the last farthing. They have sent off people, accompanied by my agents, to take grain (paying for it of course), wherever it may be found, for the use of our army. They have tendered the whole, or whatever portion we may require, of the great crops now on the ground, and which will be ready in a month or six weeks. They have freely left the decision respecting Kurachee to the Governor-General of India. They have empowered me to communicate their wishes to his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, that all Sindees taken in the act of plundering in, or near, the army shall be punished without reference to them, at the pleasure of his Excellency. They have begged me to select any spot I liked near the city for the situation of a Residency, and when I did so on the bank of the Indus, Noor Mahomed Khan presented me with a very valuable walled garden for the purpose. They have issued the orders I have asked for about establishing dawk runners on the roads. They have agreed, at my request, to fix a nerick, or rate of hire, for coolies, camels, bullocks, &c. They have offered no objection to our retaining possession of the fort of Kurachee, but, on the contrary, advised me to do so; and they have, over

and over again, assured me that I can make no application to them that shall not be immediately complied with.

8. After their long course of deceit and treachery, I am loth to pledge my word for their sincerity, but the facts I have enumerated in the preceding paragraph speak for themselves, and certainly do denote a very altered system. Whether that alteration proceeds from dread of us, or from some better feeling, it is perhaps not difficult to imagine; but we may possibly, in due time, reckon that respect and attachment will take the place of awe; and I am even now gratified by being able to inform his Lordship that the gentlemen of the Residency have unanimously observed and mentioned to me the recent marked civility of the lower classes of the people, with whom they are daily brought into contact in their rides and walks in the neighbourhood of the Residency and in the environs of the city.

9. The Beloochee chiefs, with whom I have had any intercourse of late, have likewise candidly allowed that our procedure has been guided by the strictest adherence to our good faith. I have encouraged their visits on all occasions, and have even gone so far as to tell several of them, had they tried their strength with us in the field of battle, I should have been ready and glad the next day to have held out the hand of friendship to them; that we do not war with individuals; that I blame no man for defending himself from what he may, even erroneously, consider aggression; but that we will always make, and ever have made, a broad distinction between an open enemy and a treacherous friend.

10. I have begged Brigadier Valiant to take special care that our ships and troops, being at Kurachee, shall interfere in no way with the trade of that port; and that officer assures me the authorities and people there are very contented and happy. The Ameers applied to me for a letter to the Rawul of Jessulmere, to satisfy his Highness that opium might safely come as usual by this route to Kurachee; but I excused myself from interfering, on the plea that if I did so regarding one article of trade, it would fall into a custom, and establish an inconvenient precedent. This question is, however, one that, I beg to say, demands his Lordship's special consideration and commands.

11. The early march of the Bengal division of the Army of the Indus, and the contingent of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, from Shikarpore, has been a source of great satisfaction and surprise at this Durbar. I have had many inquiries as to the balance or portion of the Shah's demands being remitted; and there has been a scheme on foot for deputing Zynoolabdeen Shah, one of the sons of Syud Ismael Shah, as an Envoy to the Governor-General, with a view to carrying this point. I have heard that the three Ameers, Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Meer Mahomed Khans, have been persuaded by the individual first-named, that he will not only, by his deputation, effect a remission of the balance of the payment to the Shah, but get the annual sum the above chiefs are bound to pay, in part of the expense of the Sinde Reserve Force, excused; that their Highnesses have agreed to give him 1000 rupees per month, certain for one year, besides paying his expenses, and have further promised that this allowance shall be made a pension for life if he is successful, and be doubled at the death of his father, who receives 1200 rupees per mensem. I mention these, otherwise unimportant intrigues, as they appear to me to bespeak the conviction of the Ameers, that if there exists any hope for them, it is in friendly entreaty, and not by evasion. I may here observe, that, whenever this subject has been brought on the *tapis*, I have deprecated the idea which the Ameers here seem to have imbibed from their brethren at Khyrpore, that the payment in question is to be looked on as a fine; I have always treated it as paying a very small price for a valuable consideration, and have reminded them that, if Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk is strong enough to establish his authority over his dominions (and of which they confess there can now be no doubt), he would at any instant be able to call them to a strict settlement. This is my view of his Lordship's intentions, and I am of opinion that it is much to be regretted that any other was allowed for one instant to be entertained by the Khyrporees.

12. Amongst the other proofs which the Ameers have afforded of their altered feelings, I have now to mention their having sent to me the original letter which they received by the hands of Mahomed Ibrahim, from the chiefs of Candahar, together with a copy of the Treaty entered into by those chiefs with the King of Persia. The Treaty provides for the allegiance of the Candaharees to Persia, Herat, and all the dependencies of those places, on certain conditions: the chief ones of which are military service—when called on; protection to the Sheeah Mussulmans. and the abolition of the trade in slaves.

13. In their letter to the Ameers, the Sirdars of Candahar strongly recommend the former to enter into a similar alliance, and offer to act for them in their negotiations until they can make it convenient to send an Ambassador to the Persian Court. The draft of the Ameers' proposed reply was also submitted to me, and if it has been sent (which my secret information leads me to believe to be the case), it must check all future advances. It explicitly stated that the Ameers had long been on terms of alliance with us; that that alliance had been very recently cemented by fresh treaties, by which the interests and views of the Governments had been identified, and that therefore their Highnesses had neither any object or wish in looking further. I told the person (Syud Tukkee Shah) who brought these papers to read to me, for the sake of argument, that if the Persians were strong enough to oppose us, it was obvious that the Sinde Government must be ruined in the conflict; that we never could or would allow the Persians, or any other western nation, to enter this province either as friends or foes; and that it thence followed that the Ameers had to choose whether they would trust to our friendship and acknowledged power, or to the empty promises and manifest weakness of the King of Persia, who had been so signally foiled by the small and poor kingdom of Herat.

14. To conclude, I can only repeat my belief that the Ameers will not swerve from their recent engagements; that they understand us better than they ever did before; that they see the utter hopelessnes of coping with us; that they are astonished at our forbearance; that the good wishes of the great mass of the people are already on our side; that every day will extend this disposition amongst the chiefs and higher classes; that we must study the prejudices, and soothe the feelings, of those who may be said to still stand aloof, and not expect them at once to adopt more enlightened motives; that our language should be invariably candid and decided, but friendly; and that as our policy is not to quarrel with Sinde, we should not hastily take offence, but bear with the views and faults of its semi-barbarous rulers and population, on whom our example and intercourse must in a few years work a most salutary effect; and who it is to be recollected, have for generations looked on us as a nation of foreigners, grasping at conquest with one guide to our actions,—that of "Might being right."

No. 162.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.) *Sinde Residency, March* 11, 1839.

SHOULD the Governor-General decide in retaining the fort at the entrance of Kurachee harbour it can be applied to any purpose for which it may be fitted, but I do think that all our military stores should, in the course of time, come into Sinde by the mouth of the Indus, that strong vessels should be built by Government, with a proper draught of water to convey them direct from Bombay to Vikkur, and that river boats should be likewise built for their transportation up the river, by which arrangement it seems to me that expensive establishments of cattle, &c., would be saved, and the Indus from the sea upwards, turned to the purpose for which nature may be said to have designed it.

It is superfluous, perhaps, for me to say, that in the preceding para-

graph I am not alluding to the present moment, but to times to come; it is here, however, possibly as well that I should look forward a little, in order to call the attention of my superiors to the views I entertain. It seems to me, that it would be better at once to take possession of Sinde (or such parts of it as we require) by force, than to leave it nominally with the Ameers, and yet deal with it as though it were our own. The one line is explicit and dignified, and cannot be misunderstood; the other I conceive to be unbecoming our power, and it must lead to constant heartburnings and bickerings, if not to a rupture of all friendly relations. There is no nation with whom we have been brought into contact in Asia towards whom I deem it so highly necessary to be undeviatingly firm as the Sindees. This has long been my recorded opinion, and every hour convinces me of its being well grounded; I would, in fact, at any instant, rather forego an immediate object than lead them, by any circumstance, to think that all our proceedings were not a portion of one great system of policy, from which they alone had forced us to deviate. The good effect of such a principle on a Government and people who may be said to be destitute of veracity and good faith, as well as of foresight, needs not be enlarged upon.

No. 163.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Camp, at Bussee, March* 11, 1839.

THE stipulations of the Treaty negotiated by you with the Ameers at Hyderabad, the copy of which, received with your dispatch of the 13th ultimo, bears date the 5th of the same month, has been under the consideration of the Governor-General of India, and I am directed to communicate to you such observations and instructions as form the result of his Lordship's deliberations on the subject of this important document.

2. Before proceeding, however, to enter into the details, which the consideration of this paper has rendered necessary, the Governor-General is desirous of assuring you of the high estimation in which he holds the patient perseverance with which, in the course of your late difficult and embarrassing negotiation, you have steadily adhered to the principal object of your instructions, and, in spite of the wayward and perfidious spirit which influenced all the conduct of the Ameers, from the first communication to them of the designs of the British Government, till the hour when they were prevailed upon to accept the terms proffered by you, you succeeded in avoiding a resort to compulsion, and in obtaining an acquiescence in the just demands of this Government by pacific negotiation.

3. Under the instructions with which you were furnished, the hostile demeanour of the Ameers after their interview with your assistant, Lieutenant Eastwick, and the virtual rejection of the Treaty tendered to them on your part, combined with the demonstrations of a disposition to push matters to extremity, so decided as to compel that officer to withdraw his Mission from Hyderabad, formed altogether such a case as would have fully justified you in declaring all negotiation at an end, and in proceeding, with the abundant military means at your disposal, to vindicate the paramount authority of your Government, and compel the submission of the Ameers. But you were aware of the importance which the Governor-General attached to the accomplishment of the great objects of securing the subordinate co-operation of the Sinde authorities in prosecution of his Lordship's political views to the westward of the Indus, and the final removal of all obstruction to the navigation of that noble stream, by pacific means, and by the manifestation of the greatest moderation and disinterestedness on the part of the British Government; you, therefore, wisely and considerately refrained from resenting, in the manner it deserved, the hostile demonstration of the Ameers, and, with a degree of temper and discretion which cannot be too highly praised, allowed them still further

time for reflection, for which moderation on your part, their ultimate acceptance of your terms must have afforded you the most gratifying reward.

4. You have thereby performed a service to your country of great importance, and have entitled yourself to the warm acknowledgments of the Governor-General, for the zeal and devotion with which you have acquitted yourself of the high trust reposed in you by Government, and it affords his Lordship the greatest satisfaction to place on record this tribute to your merits and official services.

5. The Governor-General has also derived much gratification from observing the cordiality with which his Excellency Sir John Keane was prepared to co-operate with you, and the ardour which was displayed by the army under his Excellency's command to enforce, had need been, the attainment of the just objects of the British Government, by an attack on the armament of the Ameers, and the capture of their capital city.

6. I now proceed to the consideration of the terms of the Treaty submitted for the confirmation, and, if approved, for the ratification of the Governor-General.

7. You are already informed, by my letter to your address of the 21st ultimo, of the resolution of the Governor-General with regard to the occupation of Kurachee as a conquest of the British arms, and you will therefore be prepared for the rejection of those Articles in your draft which relate to that port.

8. The Ameers had been very clearly apprised by you that, if any opposition were made to the measures of the British Government, and if a single shot were fired, they would forfeit all the advantages which the Governor-General had designed to confer upon them by the Treaty then negotiating. Notwithstanding this intimation, the landing of the British troops in the harbour of Kurachee was resisted, and Her Majesty's ship "Wellesley" was fired upon from the fort, a demonstration of hostility which, according to a rigid interpretation of the terms of your warning, deprives the Ameers of all benefit from their tardy acquiesence in the stipulations of your Treaty.

9. You had not allowed the treacherous conduct on the part of the Ameers in their detected intrigues with the enemies of the British Government, while they were professing to you their devotion to our interests, nor their insults to yourself, nor their treatment of your assistant, to deter you from persevering in a course of conciliation towards them; and the Governor-General, though he considers that, by the conduct of their officers at Kurachee, acting according to orders which they declared to have come from the Ameers at Hyderabad, the Ameers have forfeited all claim to the forbearance and generosity of the British Government, is prepared to confirm the general tenor of the stipulations of the Treaty concluded by you.

10. The position, however, in which the Ameers are placed by the occurrences at Kurachee, is not one from which they could claim or expect to obtain the restoration of that place to their authority; and his Lordship considers that, while the occupation of the place is of much importance to the British interest in Sinde, its retention as a conquest will be a fitting punishment of the perfidious and hostile conduct of the Ameers.

11. The possession of the harbour and the fort of Kurachee by the British Government precludes all necessity for negotiating with the Ameers of Sinde, the terms on which we are to enter that port.

12. Whatever detailed arrangements have been or may be made for allowing the Governor to retain in his own hands the civil administration within the town of Kurachee, the military submission of the place, and of the lands pertaining to it, and the occupation of the fortress which commands the harbour, must, it may be presumed, have placed at the discretion of the British Government the regulation of the navigation and of all other arrangements connected with the control of the port; and these, as far as they concern British shipping, and the formation of depôts for military stores, would thence be made under the authority of the British Government, without any reference to that of the Ameers. His Lordship has before him the engagements entered into with the Governors of Kura-

chee on the 3rd February, 1839, in which it is agreed that the civil government of the place shall be carried on by the local authorities. But he is not aware of the real effect of this stipulation, in whose name the Government is carried on, and to whom the resources of the town and the lands subject to it will, under this engagement, belong. Full particulars on this point, and regarding the extent and value of the district attached to the government of Kurachee, should be furnished without delay; and you are requested to explain the line of demarcation between the authority of the civil government and the military occupants, with regard to port-duties and the regulations of the general commerce of the port.

13. Under these circumstances, the stipulations of the XIIIth and XIVth, and XVth Articles of your Treaty, are no longer applicable to the existing state of things, and they have consequently been expunged.

14. This being the case, it was out of his Lordship's power to ratify the Treaty as drawn out by you, and the impossibility of his doing so has afforded an opportunity of introducing several minor alterations in the revised draft of Treaty prepared under his Lordship's directions, which have assimilated this engagement, in a manner that appeared very expedient, with the engagements already existing between the British Government and Princes of Hindoostan, of station and rank similar to that of the Ameers of Sinde.

15. You will find also that the order in which the Articles of the new Treaty have been drawn out does not correspond with that adopted by you. The object of the alterations in this respect, which have been introduced in the revised Treaty, is to keep as distinct as possible the stipulations of a political nature and those which relate to the currency and to commerce, and to the navigation of the Indus.

16. Care has also been taken in drawing up the revised Treaty, to avoid the use of terms by which the authority of the Ameers would be acknowledged as that of a collective government; and, in furtherance of this object, although the draft has been so prepared that it may serve without any change of words in the Articles of the draft, to be exchanged as it stands, it is proposed that it shall be entered into separately by each of the Ameers, and that each shall receive a separate engagement under the signature of the Governor-General, the name of each Ameer as the contracting party being confined to the paper exchanged with him. You will also observe that the Treaty is so worded as to leave no room for misapprehension as to the nature of the political relation which is hereafter to exist between the Ameers and the British Government, the former being held as the subordinate allies of this Government, which becomes, in return, the protector of the possessions of the Ameers, and the arbitrator of differences arising among them.

17. But, to convey to you fully and clearly the instructions which I have been directed to communicate to you on the subject of the Treaty, it may be convenient to take up your Treaty, Article by Article, and to explain the reasons for any alteration which may have been introduced into each of them.

18. Some alteration has indeed been introduced into the wording of the title and preamble, as well as into that of several of the Articles.

19. For the reasons stated in the 16th paragraph of this dispatch, the Governor-General is of opinion that the engagement should not be designated as between the British Government and the Ameers collectively as a Government, but between the British Government and the four Ameers of Hyderabad, the name of each being inserted in the title as a Contracting Party, and the title in the revised Treaty is changed accordingly.

20. There would have been no occasion to make any alteration in the preamble of your Treaty, excepting that suggested by yourself, if circumstances had not precluded the Governor-General from ratifying it. But, as the revised Treaty has been prepared by direction of the Governor-General, and will be transmitted to you, completed under his Lordship's signature, the omission of your name as the authorized agent in the negotiation admits without seeming inconsistency, of that of Meer Mahomed Ismael, the agent on the part of the Ameers, and it has there-

fore been omitted in the preamble, and will be introduced in another place, and, as it appeared to his Lordship that the Treaty already concluded with one of the Ameers of Sinde, Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, would be more appropriately alluded to in the preamble of this Treaty, than form the subject of a distinct Article, an allusion to that Treaty has accordingly been introduced into the preamble of this, and the Article on the same subject has been omitted.

21. In Article I. of your Treaty, the term "Hyderabad Government" has, for the reasons already stated, been struck out, and the wording has been made to conform to that of the title; and "unity of interests" has been substituted for the word "amity."

22. The provisions of the present engagement are so complete, they confer, for the first time, such signal advantages on the Ameers, and so entire a change is effected by them in the political relations of these chieftains, both with the British Government and all other States, that no allusion to former treaties seems necessary in this place: notice will be taken of them in the conclusion. This Treaty should be regarded by the Ameers as a great charter, obtained from the good will of the paramount power in India, for the future security of their independence and of their possessions, which they will henceforth hold on condition of their fidelity and adherence to their present engagement, by virtue of a deed granted to them by the head of the British Government in India.

23. The latter part of Article I. of your Treaty has accordingly been omitted in the revised draft.

24. Article II. relates to the British force to be kept up in Sinde, its strength, and the place of its cantonment.

25. My letter to your address of the 21st ultimo will have put you in possession of the views of the Governor-General on the important subject of selecting the fittest place for the cantonment of the force to be maintained in Lower Sinde; and his Lordship's determination to retain Kurachee as a British possession will have relieved you from the necessity of further negotiation with the Ameers, in the event of your having decided on recommending that place for the cantonment in preference to Tatta. From a subsequent communication received from you, in your letter of the 16th ultimo, it appears that you had ordered one native regiment and a part of the artillery at Kurachee, to proceed from that place to Tatta, and that you proposed to remove to the same place the head-quarters of the irregular horse and a wing of the 22nd Regiment now at Vikkur—you had, at the same time, retained at Kurachee, Her Majesty's 40th Regiment, a regiment of native infantry, and a party of artillery. From these details his Lordship would infer that you designed to retain a division of the reserve force at Kurachee, without abandoning your original intention of cantoning a great portion of that force at Tatta. His Lordship will be anxious to hear your final sentiments on this point, and has directed that the IInd Article of the Treaty shall be so worded as to give a latitude of selection, in case Tatta should finally be abandoned, on account of unhealthiness or other cause, as the place for the cantonment, and Vikkur or Kurachee, or any other place, adopted in its stead, or that you determine on recommending Kurachee as the head-quarters of the force, and detaching a small portion of the force to remain in the vicinity of Tatta.

26. In the original draft of the Treaty, annexed to your letter to Lieutenant Eastwick of the 13th of January last, the strength of the British force to be kept up in Sinde, is left without reserve at the discretion of the Governor-General, which appears more suitable than the limitation of the number of troops introduced into the final Treaty concluded by you. It is not, indeed, at all probable that the British Government will ever require to have more than 5,000 of its troops employed in Sinde: but in a document of this nature it is undesirable that any limitation of the authority of the Governor-General in such matters should be admitted, and the Article has accordingly been so altered as probably to satisfy the Ameers without compromising the absolute authority of the Governor-General.

27. His Lordship has, at the same time, directed that the first words of this Article in your Treaty should be omitted, as they might probably be considered more offensive by the Ameers, than leaving the number of

our troops discretional with the Governor-General, and their omission in no degree takes away from the strength of the Article.

28. The only alteration introduced into Article III of your Treaty is that the revised Article gives an option of paying either Company's or Timooree rupees in the contribution towards defraying the expense of the force; and in this Article it has been judged expedient to introduce the stipulation exempting Meer Sobdar Khan from all contribution to the expense of the force, which was provided for by a separate Article, XX, in your Treaty.

29. The Article IV of your Treaty would not appear to confer any advantage on the grantees to whom it refers, while their retention of their tenures continues, as at present, dependent on the pleasure of the Ameers, from whom the grants were derived, and, if the introduction of the subject in a treaty between the Ameers and the British Government would give the privileged classes of their subjects any claim to the good offices, or interference in their behalf, of the British Government, the principle would be objectionable, and is in direct opposition to the provisions of another Article excluding the officers of the British Government from all interference in the internal administration of the Ameers.

30. The Governor-General would be very unwilling to give any pledge whatever to any class of the Ameers' subjects, and deems it sufficient to declare each of them absolute master within the limits of his own possessions, without entering into any detail in relation to the classes of subjects over whom his rights are to be exercised; and, as an opportunity has been afforded of revising your Treaty, his Lordship has resolved on striking this Article out altogether.

31. The provisions of the Articles V and VI of your Treaty are embodied in the Article V of the revised Treaty, the language adopted being that in which stipulations of a similar nature are entered into in the Treaties between the British Government and several of the Princes of Hindoostan.

32. The Article VII of your Treaty relates to the protection of Sinde, undertaken by the British Government. The Governor-General is of opinion that in our engagement with the four Ameers who are parties to this Treaty, the use of the term Sinde is not wholly applicable, and that the British Government should not take upon itself the protection of more than the territories which are in the actual possession of the four Ameers. The language of the Article has been altered accordingly, and it stands as Article IV in the revised Treaty.

33. The object of Article VIII of your Treaty, is to render the Company's rupee a legal tender in the Sinde territories, and to preserve to the Ameers their rights of seignorage in case of the British Government working a mint and coining money in Sinde.

34. The Governor-General is disposed to hope that the Company's rupee will obtain a considerable currency. The large sums that have been, and will be, put into circulation through the army expenses, are likely, from the more beautiful and finished appearance of our coin, to be more highly prized than the Timooree rupee, which is said to be of exactly the same intrinsic value, and appears to be the only rupee heretofore in general circulation. But all that it seems necessary to attempt in the way of stipulation, in favour of our own coin, in a country which has hitherto been considered as a foreign country, is, that its currency should be admitted. To fix the relative value of two coins of a different coinage, and probably of a different standard, either by Treaty or by law, must in practice prove futile, and in theory would be unjust and impolitic. All that we can desire, is, that our rupee be allowed currency, and be left to find its proper value in the market; and, by the Governor-General's orders, the Article relating to this subject has been so amended in the revised Treaty as to provide for all that is considered necessary.

35. On the subject of the seignorage on all coinage by the officers of the British Government in the Sinde territory, the terms of this Article also present a difficulty: as long as we keep up a force of British troops in Sinde, and retain possession of the port of Kurachee, money to defray the expenses of our military and civil establishments may so conveniently be

transmitted from the mint at Bombay, that his Lordship does not contemplate the necessity or expediency of our ever coining Company's rupees there; nor is it likely that, after the conclusion of the present military operations, we shall have occasion to coin any other rupee on our own account. But we have lately had a mint employed at Shikarpore, and it may be expected to continue in operation for a long time to come, as there is a large quantity of bullion now there, or on its way thither, still to be worked up, the whole of which would, under the operation of this Article, become liable to a seignorage charge.

36. But the Governor-General finds no reason, in the late conduct of the Ameers, to grant them so great a boon as this Article would confer, and he doubts also the expediency, in a political point of view, of conceding to the Ameers of Sinde so decided a prerogative of Sovereignty as the acknowledgment of their title to demand seignorage from the Supreme Government of India, would infer. He is anxious, however, to preserve as much as possible the conditions of the Treaty which you have concluded, and has directed that the provision for seignorage to the Ameers shall be continued, though not to come into operation till after the close of our present military operations, and then to apply only to the coinage of the rupee of the country, as specified in Article X of the revised Treaty.

37. The Governor-General has considered the provisions of Article IX of your Treaty, in connexion with those of Article XXIII. The latter provides the guarantee of the British Government to the Ameers and their heirs and successors for their present possessions; while, by the former, the British Government is declared the mediator of any differences that may arise between one Ameer and another, on both of the parties disputant applying for our mediation.

38. It is evident that, if we guarantee to each of the Ameers his present possessions, we are liable to be called upon to interfere in his behalf, whether by mediation or by other means, on his shewing that his boundaries have been violated, or that his territories have sustained any other injury from the aggression of another party, and that, in observance of the obligation imposed upon us by Article XXIII, we could not defer our interference till the alleged aggressor, as well as the aggrieved party, called upon us to interfere. The limitation of our right of mediation to cases wherein we are called upon by both parties, as provided by Article IX, is inconsistent with the obligation we incur under Article XXIII, and one or other of the Articles would, therefore, require some modification.

39. But in this, as in other instances, the Governor-General would prefer the adoption in the Treaty with the Ameers of Sinde, of the conditions of similar import, which are to be found in our treaties with the Princes of Hindoostan, and to use, wherever it can conveniently be done, the language of those treaties.

40. Article VI of the revised Treaty has accordingly been drawn out in such a manner as to give full effect to the objects contemplated in your two Articles, the lasting nature of the stipulation being provided for in a separate Article, having reference to all the conditions of the present engagement; and it is confidently expected that the terms of this Article will prove equally acceptable to the Ameers, as those for which they are substituted.

41. The substance of Article X of your Treaty will be found almost unaltered in Article VII of the revised Treaty. Its application to persons in rebellion against the authority of an Ameer has been made general.

42. No alteration has been made in the tenor and substance of Article XI of your Treaty. The language used in the corresponding Article, the VIIIth of the revised Treaty, is taken from engagements of a similar import entered into by the great chieftains of Hindoostan.

43. By Article XII of your Treaty, the British Government is bound not to form any treaty, or enter into any engagement, that can possibly affect the interests of Sinde, without the concurrence and knowledge of their Highnesses the Ameers.

44. The Governor-General is not aware that, since the British Government became the paramount authority in India, an obligation so restrictive of its supreme power, has ever been proposed for its acceptance.

In our treaties with the most powerful princes of India, though we have required from them engagements not to enter into treaties, or hold political correspondence, with other States, without our knowledge and consent, it has not been usual for those princes to demand, or for the British Government to concede, any reciprocal engagements with respect to our correspondence. Such a stipulation appears inconsistent with our position, as exercising sovereign power over all India, and it would be particularly unsuitable in a treaty which is intended to establish the supremacy of the one party, and the position, as subordinate allies, of the other party.

45. The Article in question will be omitted in the revised Treaty, and if the Ameers should question you as to the cause of the omission, it may be sufficient to inform them that the British Government enters into no such stipulation with the most powerful of its allies in India.

46. As explained to you in the commencement of this dispatch, the occupation of Kurachee by the British force, has precluded the necessity of any negotiation with the Ameers, on the subjects of Articles XIII, XIV, and XV of your Treaty. These Articles are accordingly expunged.

47. The provision contained in Article XVI of your Treaty is one of a most satisfactory nature. But his Lordship thinks it sufficient that the exemption of tolls within the territories of the four Ameers of Hyderabad should be simply declared; and as he has objections, for reasons already explained, to the expression of the Contracting Governments, which has been introduced into your Article, he has directed that the Article be re-drafted, and it now stands as Article XI. of the revised draft.

48. The substance of Article XVII of your draft will be found in Article XII of the revised draft.

49. Article XVIII will be found copied in Article XIII of the revised Treaty.

50. In adopting, for the most part, the provisions contained in Article XIX. of your Treaty, the Governor-General has been guided by the manner in which stipulations of like import are worded in the treaties of the princes of Hindoostan. In many such engagements, where the military resources of the prince are placed at the disposal of the British Government, a stipulation also exists that he will act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government. The use of that expression in the Treaty with the Ameers of Hyderabad, will, in his Lordship's opinion, serve to point out very distinctly the relative positions of the Contracting Parties, and in the corresponding Article, the IXth in the revised Treaty, it has been introduced.

51. The tenor of this Article may indeed be considered as calculated merely to mark the liability of the Ameers, as subordinate allies, to furnish troops for the service of the British Government, whenever called upon to do so; for it is not understood by the Governor-General that their troops are of such a description, that they could at present be brought to co-operate usefully with a British force, or that we are ever likely to enforce this Article, unless for the sake of exerting our right to do so.

52. Had the Governor-General calculated on the probability of our calling out this contingent, for actual service, it would have been necessary first to fix how many horse and foot each Ameer was bound to furnish, and, if ever this Article comes to be enforced, a previous arrangement must be made by the Resident in Sinde with the Ameers to fix the quota for which each of them is liable.

53. Of the number of men which the Ameers are collectively bound to furnish according to this Article, the proportions of horse and foot are not fixed, and you are requested to fill up at your own discretion the blanks which are left for that purpose.

54. In your Treaty it is stipulated, that these troops are not to proceed beyond the frontier of Sinde, and are to be paid for by the British Government; but it occurs to his Lordship that every contingent of this kind, intended chiefly for the defence of the country which raises it, though acting in co-operation with the force of another State, may be required to go beyond the frontier of its own State for the defence of the State; and, in the particular case now under consideration, where the British Government engages to protect the Ameers' territories against foreign agrression,

it would hardly be consistent that their contingent should not cross their frontier, along with the British force employed to repel any aggression with which it was threatened. His Lordship has not therefore confirmed the restriction provided for in your Treaty, but has engaged that the expenses of Sinde troops so employed beyond the frontier, shall be defrayed by the British Government.

55. But when troops of this description remain within their own frontier, they are not supposed to be employed in aiding the British Government to discharge its duty of protection from foreign aggression; it may be presumed that their services are then directed to the internal benefit of the State to which they belong, and the Governor-General cannot, therefore, perceive on what grounds a contingent so employed, should be paid for by the British Government. He has accordingly directed that in the revised Article, no stipulation shall be made for the payment of the Sinde contingent, by the British Government, unless on occasion of its being employed beyond the frontier of the Ameers' territory.

56. Meer Sobdar Khan's exemption from contributing to the expense of the British force, according to Article XX of your Treaty, is provided for in Article III of the revised Treaty.

57. The Treaty concluded with Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, which is mentioned in Article XXI, has been brought forward in the preamble of the revised Treaty.

58. The Governor-General does not think it expedient to engage that Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, shall be admitted, at his pleasure, to enter into a Treaty, similar to that concluded with the four Ameers at Hyderabad; and Article XXII of your Treaty has accordingly been excluded from the revised Treaty.

59. As already explained, in the observations on Article IX, the security of the Ameers' possessions, for which Article XXIII of your Treaty is intended, is sufficiently provided for in the terms of the revised Treaty.

60. And, to render that security permanent, and all the other provisions of this Treaty perpetual, an additional Article, the XIVth, has been introduced in the revised Treaty, declaring its provisions binding for ever on the present and all future Governments of India, and on the heirs of the four Ameers in perpetuity.

61. On examining the Persian Treaties bearing the seals of the four Ameers, it appeared that many discrepancies occurred among them, which would under any circumstances have raised a difficulty as to their acceptance by the Governor-General. As they are now to be returned to you for other reasons, for re-delivery to the Ameers, his Lordship has resolved that, to secure uniformity in these deeds, a Persian copy of the revised Treaty, calculated alike for each of the Ameers, and requiring only the name of the Ameer who is the Contracting Party to be inserted in the concluding sentence of the paper, in the place assigned for it, shall be prepared and transmitted, with a request that you will have four copies of the paper engrossed in your office, inserting in one the name of Noor Mahomed Khan, in another that of Nusseer Mahomed Khan, in another that of Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, and in the last that of Sobdar Khan, so that nothing will remain for the Ameers to do, but for each to affix his seal to the document in which his name is inserted as the Contracting Party.

62. The Governor-General trusts that the rejection of the Treaties sealed by the Ameers, and which are herewith returned for the reasons which you will explain to them, and the substitution of others in their place, are not likely, under the circumstances of their situation, to produce any demur on their part to closing with the terms now finally sanctioned by the Governor-General. It is probable that the Ameers may have become anxious at not receiving the Governor-General's ratification of the Treaties, within forty days after their signature at Hyderabad; that, however, was impossible, as the Treaties did not reach his Lordship till one month after their date, and to relieve the Ameers from further anxiety and suspense, and to prevent the delay attending a

second transmission of a Treaty from Hyderabad for ratification, his Lordship has resolved to depart from the practice usual on such occasions, and to furnish you at once with four Treaties in English and Persian; all, word for word, the same, signed and concluded by the Governor-General—one of which will be granted by you to each of the Ameers, on his delivering to you, properly sealed and attested, the Persian transcript of the Treaty in which his name is inserted in the concluding sentence.

63. This course, it is presumed, will prove satisfactory to the Ameers, and his Lordship has the rather been induced to adopt it from a consideration that the submission, if not the sincerity, of the Ameers, since their concluding the Treaties, has been evinced in their payment of ten lacs of rupees, and from his Lordship's desire, that the arduous task of this negotiation should be concluded by you, to whom the Government is indebted for the success with which it has been brought so near a conclusion, and his Lordship fears that the state of your health will induce you, at no very distant period, to resign your charge of the Residency in Sinde. His Lordship regards it of importance, however, that you should be empowered, without loss of time, to conclude this negotiation, by the exchange of the Treaties, and trusts that these instructions will reach Hyderabad before you have quitted that place.

64. It has been an object with the Governor-General, throughout this negotiation, not to deal with the Ameers of Sinde as a confederate body; and their late conduct has strengthened every argument in favour of treating with them singly, and allowing their respective interests to become separate as in the natural course of events must inevitably be the case. Our former attempts to increase our influence with them as an united Government, with Noor Mahomed Khan at its head, has completely failed, and we shall henceforth, under the operation of our present Treaties, find more strength in their differences, or at least from a want of unity among them, than could be expected from an adherence to our former course of policy.

65. In furtherance of this object, the Governor-General has resolved to address a letter to each of the four Chiefs, in which he has taken the opportunity of intimating his knowledge of their late perfidious conduct, and warning them of the disastrous consequence to themselves of any future infraction of the engagements into which they are about to enter.

66. These four letters, with a copy for your information, form inclosures of this dispatch.

67. You will be pleased to exercise your own discretion as to the manner and time of their delivery; and, also, with regard to the Treaties having been already signed by the Governor-General, and, being in your possession ready for delivery, it must depend upon your experience of the character of the Ameers, and the impression likely to be made on them, by a knowledge that these Treaties are already concluded on the part of the British Government, whether you communicate or withhold the circumstance before the revised Treaties are submitted for their acceptance, and are ready to be exchanged for those in your hands.

68. The ability and intelligence which have so much distinguished the course of your previous negotiations at Hyderabad, leave the Governor-General without a doubt, that the termination of this important transaction will, under your guidance, be effected in an equally successful manner, and that you will not leave your present arduous post without the proud satisfaction of having finally accomplished the great object of the British Government, of placing upon a secure and lasting basis the interests of the British nation in Lower Sinde.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK

No. 164.

Treaty between the British Government and the Ameers of Hyderabad, viz.: Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Sobdar Khan, as ratified by the Governor-General.

WHEREAS Treaties of friendship and amity have from time to time been entered into between the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde, and whereas circumstances have lately occurred which render it necessary to revise those Treaties, and a separate Treaty has already been concluded between the British Government and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore; the following Articles have been agreed upon by the Contracting Parties:—

ARTICLE I.

There shall be lasting friendship, alliance, and unity of interest between the Honorable East India Company, and the Ameers of Hyderabad, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Sobdar Khan.

ARTICLE II.

A British force shall be maintained in Sinde and stationed at Tatta, or such other place westward of the River Indus, as the Governor-General of India may select. The Governor-General will decide upon the strength of this force, which it is not intended shall exceed 5000 fighting men.

ARTICLE III.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, bind themselves to pay severally the sum of one lac of rupees, being three lacs of rupees altogether of the Company's currency, or of that called Bakkroo or Timooree, in part payment of the expense of the British force every year. Meer Sobdar Khan is exempted from all contribution to the expense of this force.

ARTICLE IV.

The British Government takes upon itself the protection of the territories now possessed by the Ameers of Hyderabad from all foreign aggression.

ARTICLE V.

The four Ameers, parties to this Treaty, shall remain absolute rulers in their respective principalities, and the jurisdiction of the British Government shall not be introduced into their territories. The officers of the British Government will not listen to, or encourage, complaints against the Ameers from their subjects.

ARTICLE VI.

The four Ameers being confirmed in their present possessions by the [redacted]eding Article, will refer to the Resident in Sinde, any complaint of [redacted]ession which one of them may have to make against another, and [redacted]esident, with the sanction of the Governor-General, will endeavour [redacted]iate between them and settle their differences.

ARTICLE VII.

In case of aggressions by the subjects of one Ameer on the territories of another, and of the Ameer by whose subjects such aggressions are made, declaring his inability to prevent them, in consequence of the offending parties being in rebellion to his authority, on a representation of the circumstances being made to the Governor-General by the Resident, the Governor-General will, if he sees fit, order such assistance to be afforded as may be requisite to bring the offenders to punishment.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Ameers of Sinde will not enter into any negotiation with any Foreign Chief or State, without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government. Their amicable correspondence with friends and relations may continue.

ARTICLE IX.

The Ameers of Sinde will act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government for purposes of defence, and shall furnish for the service of the British Government, a body of 3,000 troops, horse, and foot, whenever required. These troops when employed with the British forces, will be under the orders and control of the Commanding Officer of the British forces. The Sinde contingent troops, if employed under British Officers beyond the Sinde frontier, will be paid by the British Government.

ARTICLE X.

The Bakkroo or Timooree rupee, current in Sinde, and the Honorable Company's rupee, being of equal value, the currency of the latter coin shall be admitted in the Sinde territories. If the officers of the British Government establish a mint within the territories of the Ameers, parties to this Treaty, and there coin the Bakkroo, or Timooree rupee, the Ameers shall be entitled, after the close of the present military operations in Affghanistan, to a seignorage on the coinage according to the customs of the country.

ARTICLE XI.

No toll will be levied on trading boats passing up or down the River Indus from the sea to the northernmost point of that stream, within the territories of the Ameers of Hyderabad.

ARTICLE XII.

But any merchandize landed from such boats on their passage up or down the river and sold, shall be subject to the usual duties of the country, provided always that goods sold in a British camp or cantonment shall be exempt from the payment of duty.

ARTICLE XIII.

Goods of all kinds may be brought by merchants and others to the mouths of the Indus (Gorabaree) at the proper season, and kept there at the pleasure of the owners, till the best period of the year for sending them up the river, but should any merchant land and sell any part of his merchandize, either at Gorabaree or any where else, (except at the

British cantonment, such merchant shall pay the usual duties upon them.

ARTICLE XIV.

The provisions of this Treaty agreed upon by the Governor-General of India on the one part, and the Ameers, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Sobdar Khan, on the other part, shall be binding for ever on all succeeding Governments of India, and on the heirs and successors of the said Ameers in perpetuity; all former treaties between the Contracting Parties, not rescinded by the provisions of this engagement, remaining in force.

This Treaty, consisting of Fourteen Articles, having been signed in quadruplicate, by the Right Honorable George Lord Auckland, G.C.B., Governor-General of India, at Bussee, on the 11th day of March, 1839, one of these four documents will be separately granted, through Colonel H. Pottinger, Resident at Hyderabad, the Negotiator of the Treaties, to each of the four Ameers, on his delivering a counterpart engagement under his seal and signature to the British Resident in Sinde, Colonel H. Pottinger.

AUCKLAND.

No. 165.

The Governor-General to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan and to the other Ameers.

Camp, Bussee, March 11, 1839.

THE intelligence which reached me for several months subsequent to my communicating to you the objects of my policy for the restoration to his throne and his dominions of the legitimate Sovereign of Affghanistan, and, as a part of that policy, to settle the differences of the Ameers of Sinde with the Government of that country, and to provide for the security of their territories against the future pretensions of the ruler of Affghanistan, have filled me with grief and surprise. Instead of valuing as it deserved the great boon that was proffered to them, and cordially uniting their interests with that of the powerful Government which proffered to take their possessions under its protection, I have abundant proofs that the Ameers of Hyderabad, while professing fidelity to the British Government, were deeply concerned in intrigues, and were carrying on the most treacherous correspondence with the enemies of that Government; at the same time, my representative at Hyderabad was subject to insult and indignities which, among civilized nations, were sufficient to produce an immediate rupture, and to leave the parties who had caused or connived at such proceedings, to the severest measures of retribution on the part of the offended Government. Such conduct on the part of the Ameers had rendered them liable to such measures of coercion on its part as would have deprived them of all further power of opposing themselves to the first objects of its policy. The treatment of Lieutenant Eastwick at Hyderabad, and the actual hostilities commenced by the Ameers' local officers at Kurachee, in opposing the landing of the British troops at that port, had deprived the Ameers of all right to expect a continuance of the indulgence or forbearance of the British Government.

Colonel Pottinger, my representative at Hyderabad, has, however, seen reason to overlook the insults to himself and the treatment of his assistant, and to forward to me your tardy acceptance of the terms of a Treaty which he had proffered to you. I am willing to confirm the general tenor of that Treaty, with the exception of the Articles relating to Kurachee, which place has, through the blind folly which deterred you from sooner closing with the liberal and indulgent terms offered to you by the Resident, been conquered, and its occupation by the British Government will be continued, to prove to the Ameers and the people of Lower

Sinde the fatal consequences of resisting the power of this Government. This has afforded me an opportunity of making some alterations in other Articles of the Treaty, which, on the explanation which Colonel Pottinger will afford, will, I have no doubt, prove satisfactory to your Highness.

This engagement being finally concluded, and the future relations between your Highness and the British Government being placed on a firm and lasting foundation, the past will be buried in oblivion, and it will only remain with your Highness, by a steady and faithful adherence to your present engagements, to secure for yourself and your posterity the permanence of your possessions, and the valuable friendship of the ruling power in India.

I am, &c.,
AUCKLAND.

No. 166.

The Governor-General of India to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Camp, at Pinjore, March* 13, 1839.

THE division of the Bengal army, under the command of Major-General Sir Willoughby Cotton, reached the Indus within a week after the force of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk. Permission had there been afforded for the construction of bridges of boats over the two channels of the river, between which are situated the island and fort of Bukkur. With the Ameers of Khyrpore, to whom the fortress of Bukkur belongs, I have directed a Treaty to be formed, receiving them formally under the protection of the British Government, and stipulating for the possession of Bukkur, whenever it might be required, during the continuance of defensive operations. A copy of this Treaty is forwarded in the packet; and you will observe, that its conditions are very favourable to the Khyrpore Government, which had always manifested a friendly spirit. Much credit is justly due to Sir A. Burnes, for the skill with which he cultivated and confirmed this spirit, and ultimately obtained a ready acquiescence in the Treaty. In accordance with the provisions of this engagement, the fort of Bukkur was delivered over to our force, shortly after its arrival in the neighbourhood, and garrisoned in the first instance by the 35th Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry. This ready and amicable acquisition of so useful a position, may be expected to have produced an excellent effect in all the neighbouring countries; for the fort is one of much celebrity; and though its position is in some degree defective, it may be pronounced to be safe, even with a small garrison, against all common attacks, and it entirely commands the navigation of the river. Two companies of the Bengal sappers and miners, under the command of Captain George Thomson, of the corps of engineers, had applied themselves, under many disadvantages, to the preparation of the boat-bridges leading to the island, the passage over one of the channels being 490 yards in breadth. Their success was such as to call forth general admiration, and to reflect the highest credit on themselves. The bridges were reported practicable for the transit of troops, park, and stores, by the 3rd of February; and these would all have crossed and concentrated at Shikarpore within the first week of that month, but for the course of events in Lower Sinde, which I shall now proceed to bring succinctly under your notice.

13. You have been informed, by previous dispatches, that it was intimated to Colonel Pottinger, the Resident in Sinde, in the first instructions communicated to him after the conclusion of the Treaty of Lahore, that the British Government would be compelled, in the event of there being evidence of a coalition of the principal Ameers of Hyderabad with its enemies, to deprive them of power, and to establish in Lower Sinde the authority of any member of the family who might prove himself to be trustworthy and faithful to the Power, by which alone, so lately as at the close of 1836, the subjection of the Sinde territories to the Sikh dominion had been averted. There had been too much reason for this precau-

tionary statement, for intelligence had reached me in March, 1838, of letters having been written by the two principal Ameers, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, and Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, to the Shah of Persia, professing deference to his power, and encouraging his advance; and, even at that early period, I caused it to be notified to the Ameers, that these proceedings could not be tolerated. This warning was not taken, and down to the latest period advances have been continued by the principal Ameers to the Shah of Persia, and every measure in their power readily, though covertly, adopted, which might have the effect of counteracting the objects of the British Government. I intend by the next mail to forward to you copies of recent dispatches from Mr. Macnaghten, conveying proofs of active intrigues having been prosecuted with a pretended member of the Persian Royal Family, at a date even subsequent to the raising of the siege of Herat. From all proceedings of this character, one of the Ameers, Meer Sobdar Khan, has held himself free, and it was to him, as a friendly ruler at Hyderabad, that I originally looked, on the supposition of a change in the Government being forced upon me. When Colonel Pottinger proceeded to Hyderabad, in the course of September last, in execution of the instructions above referred to, he found that by very recent occurrences the feelings of the principal Ameers had been shewn to be to the last degree ungrateful and hostile. A copy of a secret paper, which he then delivered to those Ameers, is sent with this dispatch, and it places in a clear and strong light the provocations which we had received from these weak and treacherous rulers. Besides the facts detailed in this memorandum, it must be mentioned, that Colonel Pottinger himself had been insulted, and his person exposed to some danger, by the throwing of stones and other missiles by the populace of Hyderadad, acting doubtless on the clandestine instigation or permission of the chiefs, without any adequate redress being afforded. Reserving the right of his Government to notice, as it might judge fit, transactions so disgraceful, Colonel Pottinger acted in the difficult position in which he was placed with extreme temper and judgment. He had to require the peaceable consent of the Ameers to the passage of the Bombay troops through their country in progress to Shikarpore, and to secure the entrance of the troops into Sinde, without a delay which might have been fatal to the success of the main expedition, and this consent he procured from them. When informed of all these circumstances, I determined, as the only course which seemed open to me, so as to avoid the slightest appearance of harshness or bad faith, and, at the same time, to acquire the security which had become indispensable, as well against any future defection as against the bad feelings which still continued apparent on the part of the Sinde Chiefs, to express my willingness to maintain the authority of the existing principal Ameers, who had conceded the unopposed admission of our troops into their territories, on the condition of such a British force being established, and, as far as possible, subsidized in Sinde, as might suffice to fix beyond a doubt our military and political ascendancy on that important frontier. Instructions of this tenor were accordingly communicated to Colonel Pottinger in the end of October last. Shortly after the dispatch of those orders, reports were received from Colonel Pottinger, which made manifest the peculiar difficulty of dealing with the Ameers of Hyderabad, in consequence of the impossibility of enforcing the demand of a subsidiary force in the country, conjointly with the maintenance of the supremacy of the two principal Ameers, without subjecting the friendly and unfriendly chiefs to a like penalty. Upon this occasion, Colonel Pottinger threw out the idea, which at once appeared to have much to recommend it, of breaking up the confederacy of the Hyderabad Ameers, and declaring each Ameer independent in his own possessions, upon such an amount of contribution as might in regard to each be thought equitable. Such a course of proceeding could easily be adopted without a revocation of the former orders, as the two principal Ameers would, it became obvious, be unable to give any effectual or really satisfactory acquiescence to the scheme of supporting a British force in Sinde, on the principle of a continued recognition of their superiority. Authority was accordingly communicated to Colonel Pottinger, on the 21st of Novem-

ber, to frame any new arrangement upon this basis. A recommendation was subsequently received from that officer, that the British Government should accept a tract of country near Tatta, towards the mouths of the Indus, instead of any money contribution for the expense of the British troops to be stationed in Sinde; but as I judged it, above all things, desirable to give no colour to imputations of a desire of territorial aggrandizement, in connexion with the plan of defensive policy which circumstances have forced upon the Government in India, I was debarred from giving encouragement to this proposition. Instructions to this effect were issued to Colonel Pottinger on the 13th of December, and were the latest which had been received by him, when he resolved on the terms which he finally offered to the Ameers. While this correspondence was in progress, the Bombay division, under the command of Sir John Keane, had landed at the Hujamree mouth of the Indus, in the early days of December. No resistance was ventured to its disembarkation, but from the date of its arrival every artifice was resorted to, notwithstanding the most fulsome professions of devotion and friendship, to thwart and impede its movements. The means of independent purchase and supply were found to be very unexpectedly circumscribed, and the small number of camels that could be procured for the most indispensable wants of the force, were obtained through the agency of a private merchant at Kurachee, and by cordial aid furnished, according to his resources, by the Rao of Cutch. By difficulties of this nature the efficient advance of the Bombay troops seemed likely to be exceedingly protracted, and as time was of the most urgent importance, in order to secure the accomplishment of the great movement into Affghanistan at the favourable season, I determined on the 31st of December, to leave Colonel Pottinger unshackled by any rigid line of instruction, and empowered him to arrange any terms with the Ameers, by which, with security from serious embarrassment from Lower Sinde, the satisfactory upward march of the force could be rendered certain. These instructions (which were confirmed and repeated on January 10th, in reply to express suggestions of the same purport, received from Colonel Pottinger) arrived too late to have influence in the actual decision; but I notice them, that all the contingencies for which we have had to provide, may be before you. At length, after the lapse of weeks, Sir John Keane's division had been able to move on to Tatta, and Colonel Pottinger had thought that there might, from a partial improvement in the state of affairs, be a reasonable hope that the Ameers would accede to proper terms. It had become also of urgent importance to ascertain whether the reserve force before alluded to, intended to be kept stationed in Sinde (which had been summoned from Bombay) should land on a friendly or a hostile footing. Colonel Pottinger had, therefore, determined to offer to the Ameers a revised Treaty, framed on the prescribed principle of establishing the distinct independence of each of them, and fixing a British force, to be partly subsidized, in the country, with an exemption of the friendly chief, Meer Sobdar Khan, from all payment on account of the expenses of that force. Transcripts of his instruction to his assistant, Lieutenant Eastwick, whom he deputed, on the 15th of January, with this draft of Treaty to Hyderabad, and of the draft itself, accompany this address. The reception of Lieutenant Eastwick by the Ameers, was in the highest degree unsatisfactory; and it is now apparent that they endeavoured to see what good they could derive from a system of feigned confidence and violent menace. On the 23rd of January Lieutenant Eastwick, with his companions, was obliged to leave Hyderabad, and proceed to join Sir John Keane's force, which had then reached Jurruk, within two marches of the capital. Communications were cut off, letters seized, boatmen and other workpeople threatened, and every appearance of intended open hostility exhibited. At Jurruk, Sir John Keane had to wait a few days for the arrival of the boats with his stores and ammunition; and with the prospect of an early assault upon Hyderabad before him, he judged it prudent to call for the aid of a brigade of infantry, two regiments of cavalry, and some guns, from the Bengal division, which he then knew to have reached Bukkur. Before, however, his orders had reached Sir Willoughby Cotton, that officer having received

authentic intelligenee of the imminent hazard of a rupture in Lower Sinde, had marched with the larger force of two brigades of infantry, one brigade of cavalry, and a considerable proportion of artillery, down the east bank of the Indus, in the direction of Hyderabad, leaving one brigade of infantry in position near the Bukkur bridge of boats. A portion of the disciplined troops of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk had been also sent down from Shikarpore to occupy Larkhana, a town of some consequence in Sinde, from which the Beloochee soldiery appeared to have been drafted to support the Ameers at Hyderabad. When information of this state of things reached me, I sent instructions, on the 10th of February, suited to what then appeared to be the probable exigencies of our position. But fortunately it had been soon seen that the Ameers were as pusillanimous as they had been false and outwardly arrogant. They sent a deputation, on some date before the 30th January, to Colonel Pottinger, assenting to all his demands, when they perceived that he was resolved and prepared to enforce them. He here judged it requisite to mark his sense of their unworthy conduct, and to secure the payment which we have desired for Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk (the rendering of which had previously been left to their sense of their own advantage), by making it a new condition, that twenty-one lacs of rupees should be paid by the Ameers of Hyderabad on this account; ten lacs immediately, and the remainder within some reasonable time to be specified. This stipulation was also at once agreed to, and, in a word, the Ameers were reduced to a state of abject apprehension and submission. It is to be mentioned that the friendly chief, Meer Sobdar Khan, though he seemed unable to afford us any active aid, yet evinced his determination not to oppose us, and the special stipulations in the arrangement in his favour were accordingly retained. Sir John Keane, with his force, arrived opposite to Hyderabad on the 3rd or 4th of February, and the Treaties were duly signed and delivered by all the Ameers, and the ten lacs of rupees made over to Colonel Pottinger, without delay. The orders of Sir John Keane, announcing the favourable change, and countermanding the further advance of the Bengal troops, reached Sir Willoughby Cotton on his march southwards, from the 6th to the 9th of February, and these troops were immediately moved back, crossed over the bridge at Bukkur, and concentrated at Shikarpore by the 21st of February. Sir John Keane, with his division, marched northwards from Hyderabad, all objects at that capital having been accomplished on the 10th of February.

14. While the events described had been been occurring at Hyderabad, two regiments of the reserve force for Sinde, consisting of Her Majesty's 40th Regiment of Infantry, and a regiment of Bombay Native Infantry, had proceeded, under instructions from Colonel Pottinger, to land at Kurachee, Her Majesty's regiment being embarked on board the flag-ship "Wellesley," in which his Excellency Sir Frederick Maitland, the Naval Commander-in-chief, had obligingly afforded it accommodation. The landing of the troops being opposed, and a shot fired upon them from a small fort, which is situated close to the harbour, the "Wellesley" opened her batteries, and in a very short time the southern or sea-face of the fort, the wall of which was, in part, sixteen feet thick, was levelled with the ground. The troops, in the meantime, landed from the boats, and the garrison of the fort, which consisted of a very small number of men, was immediately apprehended. The Governor of the town at once gave over military possession of it by capitulation, and we have thus gained the occupancy of a military post, of which all reports are most favourable, and which is likely to become one of much interest and importance. Immediately on being apprised that the place had thus fallen to us, while affairs had not come to an extremity at Hyderabad, but were in train of being settled by negotiation, I forwarded instructions to Colonel Pottinger to state that, under the circumstances under which the military control over Kurachee had been acquired by us, the retention of our hold over it was a matter the determination of which rested wholly in our own discretion, and that such retention, at least during the present operations of our armies in Affghanistan, must be considered indispensable.

15. Having more recently received the draft of a Treaty with the

Ameers, as signed by them, and submitted for consideration by Colonel Pottinger, I have altogether omitted the Articles as they originally stood, regarding a mere permission to land and keep stores at Kurachee, and have otherwise modified the engagement in its form and some of its detailed provisions, though without departing from its essential spirit. A copy of the draft, as submitted by Colonel Pottinger, of the revised draft approved by me, and of the instructions which have been communicated, under my directions, in explanation of this revised draft, accompanies this dispatch. These papers are so full and clear, in respect to all parts of this important arrangement, that they supersede the necessity of any allusion to the separate Articles of the Treaty in this place. It will be seen, from the instructions to Colonel Pottinger, that the establishment of the main permanent military post in Lower Sinde, at Kurachee, is seriously contemplated.

16. I may be permitted to offer my congratulations to you upon this timely settlement of our relations with Sinde, by which our political and military ascendancy in that province is now finally declared and confirmed. The main provisions of the proposed engagements are, that the confederacy of the Ameers is virtually dissolved, each chief being upheld in his own possessions, and bound to refer his differences with the other chiefs, to our arbitration; that Sinde is placed formally under British protection and brought within the circle of our Indian relations; that a British force is to be fixed in Lower Sinde, at Tatta, or such other point to the westward of the Indus as the British Government may determine; a sum of three lacs of rupees per annum, in aid of the cost of this force, being paid in equal proportions by the three Ameers, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Meer Mahomed Khan; and that the navigation of the Indus, from the sea to the most northern point of the Sinde territory, is rendered free of all toll. These are objects of high undoubted value, and especially so when acquired without bloodshed, as the first advance towards that consolidation of our influence, and extension of the general benefits of commerce, throughout Affghanistan, which form the great end of our designs. It cannot be doubted that the complete submission of the Ameers will go far towards diffusing in all quarters an impression of the futility of resistance to our arms. The command of the navigation of the Indus up to the neighbourhood of the junction of the five rivers, will, by means of steam-vessels, add incalculably to the safety of our frontier. And the free transit of its waters, at a time when a considerable demand for merchandize of many kinds will be created by the mere onward movement of our forces, will give a spur to enterprise by this route, from which it may be hoped that permanent advantage will be derived. The arrangement may seem in some measure unsatisfactory, inasmuch as so small an annual sum as three lacs of rupees will go but a short way towards defraying the expense of our force to be stationed in Sinde. But it has been the deliberate opinion of Colonel Pottinger, to whom the subject has been at different times referred for the most careful examination, that the Ameers draw but a very slender revenue from their districts, and that no heavier imposition could well be fixed upon them. I have been the more disposed to admit the justice of this view, so long as the Ameers continue stedfast to the engagements which are now to be exchanged with them, because I am anxious that all our measures should bear the character of a just forbearance and moderation. It is to be remembered that no arrangement has yet been formed with the Chief of Meerpore, who has distinct possessions in Lower Sinde, and that some addition to the annual pecuniary contribution may eventually be obtained from him. To ourselves it is so desirable to have the military control of the Indus, that it would have been highly expedient to introduce our troops into Sinde, even were the whole cost to be paid from our own treasuries. In fact, on the probable supposition that we shall not permanently maintain a force of more than 2500 men in Sinde, the arrangement would be, under any circumstances, inexpensive, as being little else than an advance of our frontier stations from those at present occupied by us in Cutch and Guzerat.

17. You will, I am confidently persuaded, warmly concur in the sen-

timents of approbation that I have expressed, on reviewing the proceedings by which, in a crisis of much delicacy, Colonel Pottinger has been able to render a signal service to his country. I greatly regret to have to add that I have been informed by Colonel Pottinger, that he will probably be compelled, by the failure of his health, to quit, at least for some time, a scene where his presence, especially at this juncture, is so useful.

18. It will be seen that, in the Khyrpore Treaty, there is no stipulation for pecuniary payment by any of the chiefs of that place to the British Government. This exemption was well merited by the principal Ameer, Meer Roostum Khan, who had uniformly evinced a determination to adhere to British interests; but one of his family, Meer Moobaruck Khan, had, it appears, been actively unfriendly to us in his correspondence with the chiefs at Hyderabad. He was only admitted to the advantages of the Treaty on the urgent entreaties of Meer Roostum Khan, and because Sir Alexander Burnes, to whose judgment the matter was committed, judged the measure to be expedient. I have not held, however, that Meer Moobaruck Khan should be excused from paying, as far as his resources fairly admit of it, the quota of seven lacs of rupees, in consideration of the guaranteed surrender of all further demands on the part of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which has been allotted by Colonel Pottinger as the equitable share to be made good on account of the Khyrpore principality, in addition to the twenty-one lacs agreed to at Hyderabad. Instructions have been issued by me, with a view to the adjustment of this contribution with Meer Moobaruck Khan.

19. These questions, having reference to the local affairs of Sinde, having been disposed of, I have been happy to find myself free to direct all my attention and exertion to the advance into Affghanistan.

No. 167.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Officer in charge of Political Affairs at Shikarpore.

(Extract.) *Camp, Burh, March* 14, 1839.

YOU are probably acquainted with the views of the Governor-General regarding the Ameers of Khyrpore, as a correspondence on the subject has already been had with Mr. Macnaghten. That division of the territory of Sinde is liable to contribute like the Ameers of Hyderabad to the payment to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk. The sum levied from each of the Hyderabad Ameers on this account, is seven lacs of rupees, and his Lordship considers Khyrpore liable to a similar exaction. But the Ameer Roostum Khan has, by orders of the Governor-General, been declared free of this demand, in consequence of the more friendly disposition which he has manifested towards the British Government, and the valuable cession which he has made to us of the fort of Bukkur. But no such reason precludes us from holding Moobaruck Khan liable to the payment of a just proportion of this contribution. His conduct, indeed, has been such as to require no indulgence from Shah Shooja or from the British Government; and you are, therefore, desired to enter immediately upon this subject with him. The Governor-General is not sufficiently acquainted with the state of his resources to decide at once that he shall be considered liable for the full amount of seven lacs of rupees, but he should be obliged to pay fully in proportion to his means, and you are authorized, in commencing a negotiation with him on the subject, if it has not already been commenced, to assume his liability to the payment of that sum, from which you may afterwards admit such reductions as you find that his power of payment may render absolutely unavoidable, reporting the progress of your negotiation for the information of his Lordship.

No. 168.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, March* 14, 1839.

IN the 15th paragraph of my dispatch, of the 15th of December last, I brought to the notice of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, the unfriendly and insulting demeanour of Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore.

2. In the inclosure to my letter, of the 9th of January, I explained the erroneous impressions under which I had learned the above-named petty chief had been acting, and expressed my hope, that he would remain neutral, even if we came to hostilities with the Hyderabad Government.

3. His Lordship, is, however, aware, that Shere Mahomed came to this place with a body of his troops and some guns, and in the 4th paragraph of my dispatch of the 30th January, I repeated my opinion of his hostile conduct, and of the steps that it might be necessary to take in order to chastise him.

4. Some time after the Bombay division moved on from this place, I had a very civil letter from Shere Mahomed, written avowedly to inquire after my health; but the Dewan who was charged with the delivery of it, took the opportunity to deny that his master had acted in the way I ascribed to him. He said, that my letter to him, inviting him to continue friends with us, had been intercepted; that he knew nothing of the ill-treatment of the cossids who brought it; that they had never gone near him; that the plunder of our grain and forage was committed without his orders; that he had never even heard of the seizure and imprisonment of a havildar and three privates of one of our regiments, who had been sent to buy camels; that that circumstance occurred at a town called Meerpore Buttooh, which was a long way from his capital; that the name had, doubtless, led to the mistake; and finally, that he had been persuaded to advance with his troops and guns to Hyderabad, under the belief that we were come into this country with the sole intention of taking possession of it, and that the fall of Hyderabad would be immediately followed up by an attack on his territories.

5. I wrote the Ameer a polite answer to his letter of inquiry, expressed to his Dewan my satisfaction at the explanation which had been afforded, and there the matter dropped for some time; but having lately had occasion to address Shere Mahomed again, to request his good offices in furthering the progress of camels that are now en route from Deesa to join the army of the Indus, I have received a most satisfactory and friendly reply, in which he expresses, in highly becoming terms, his gratification at attending to my request, and adds, "you have long been my near neighbour, but you never before asked a favor of me. I hope you will not hesitate in future, and you may always reckon on the satisfaction I shall feel in doing what you require."

6. Little doubt remained in my mind, but that this tone was a part of the altered feeling towards us, which is springing up, and all question on it was removed, by a verbal communication made yesterday to my Moonshee by a Dewan of Meer Shere Mahomed, whom he met at Sobdar Khan's levee, and who told him, that his master had now witnessed our good faith and adherence to our word, that he had been deceived about us, and that his desire was to enter into a treaty with the British Government.

7. It is probable I shall hear further on this subject, and I shall, of course, encourage this amicable disposition, and meet Meer Shere Mahomed half way in bringing it to completion. It may be matter of great doubt, whether all his denials and assertions are strictly correct, but nevertheless, we must not set them down as totally false, because they seem to be improbable. It is on the records of his Lordship's late agency for Sinde, that in the year 1834, this very chief (Shere Mahomed) sent a secret emissary to Bhooj, who was introduced at night in a mosque

to a common cooly, hired for the purpose of personating his Highness the Rao of Cutch, and that, on this foolish intrigue being exposed and explained to him, he complained most bitterly in his letters to me, of the deception which his own servants had practised on him. A man who could be capable of such absurdity, cannot be a good judge of our policy, and if he really believed that our troops had come into Sinde to conquer his possessions, we cannot blame him for making a show, at least, of defending them.

8. Since the date of my dispatch of the 7th instant, I have had several visitors, amongst them was the Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee, who sat with me three hours, and gave me the fullest opportunity of taking a review, from first to last, of our policy towards Sinde, of which I gladly availed myself, as he is a man of great weight and importance, both as the head of the great tribe of Lugharee, and the Makhtarkan or Prime Minister of Noor Mahomed Khan. I found, that he was ignorant of most of the intrigues that had been carried on by the Ameers with Persia and the Kandahar chiefs, during the last year; and when I laid the proofs of them before him, and deduced from them, that our recent arrangements were, in real truth, forced on us by the Ameers, he admitted the fact, and distinctly said he had not one word to urge against them. He left me perfectly pleased, promising, that he would take every care to undeceive those who might still have the notion that the late Treaty was uncalled for, and begging me to believe no reports I might hear of him, as if he ever saw reason to change his sentiments, as to our proceedings, he would candidly tell me so, and ask for explanation.

9. I had at one time an idea of drawing up a sort of manifesto of our intercourse with the Hyderabad Government, and circulating it amongst the Beloochee chiefs, in Persian and Sindee, which latter is the only language that many of them understand, but I think the mode I am following, for making them acquainted with our actions, and the motives for them, is still better, because it has not the formality of a written paper, which might weaken the influence and authority of the Ameers over their chiefs and kinsmen, and which I respectfully conceive it should be our policy to strengthen and uphold.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 169.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant Eastwick.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, March* 17, 1839.

I HAVE received from Mr. Macnaghten, Envoy and Minister, &c., a copy of his letter to your address of the 4th instant.

2. I most readily concur in the request made by that gentleman, that you should remain in Upper Sinde so long as your services may be required there.

3. I understand the question of the payment to the Shah by the Khyrpore Chiefs has been referred to his Lordship the Governor-General. If Meer Roostum asks you about it, you should give him no hopes of its being excused, but endeavour to remove the erroneous impression he seems to have imbibed, that it is a fine, whereas it is paying a very small price for his future entire relief, under our guarantee, from a serious demand.

4. With regard to the *soi-disant* Persian Prince, I beg to send you a copy of my answer of the 27th ultimo, to Mr. Macnaghten. His papers you had better keep for the present,

5. I have heard by report, that there is no doubt of the guilt of the two Beloochees alluded to in the 4th paragraph of Mr. Macnaghten's letter, and you should call on the Government to whom they belong, to bring them to condign punishment, or confine them for life; keeping them untried in prison, seems to me to be to no purpose.

6. I have made the necessary communications to the Hyderabad Government as to the troops that are to be left in Upper Sinde. Whatever may be their real sentiments, they have expressed their wish that we will do whatever we like, and I really believe, now that they are satisfied that we have no sinister designs against them, they care not what we fix on.

7. I intend to leave Hyderabad in about a week, and to proceed to Kurachee, where I shall at once embark for Bombay. My motive for, and hope in, this early departure is, that I shall gain a sufficient stock of strength and health to be able to come back to Cutch before the rains, which I have promised the Ameers to do, if possible. They place, as you are aware, great reliance in my personal intercourse with them, and they say, next to having me on the spot, it would be most satisfactory to all Sinde, that I should reside in Cutch.

8. Lieutenant Leckie will remain here in charge of the local duties, and I do not think there is any occasion to call for Dr. Gordon from Bhawulpore.

9. I shall send a copy of this letter to Mr. Macnaghten for his notice, and also transmit one to the Secretary with the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 170.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Bhag, March* 24, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward for your consideration the accompanying letter to your address, from the Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 4th instant, together with its inclosure.

2. To enable me to comply with the desire expressed in the 2nd paragraph of Mr. Maddock's letter, I have to request that you will furnish me with your opinion of the means proposed by Meer Moobaruck to meet the whole demand of seven lacs of rupees, and to pay annually the sum of one lac of rupees towards the maintenance of the British force in Sinde.

3. I shall be further obliged by the communication of your sentiments as to the best mode of enforcing the immediate and prospective payment by Meer Moobaruck.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

No. 171.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant Leckie, his Assistant at Hyderabad.

Sir, *Tatta, March* 29, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward to you a translation of a letter which I have this day addressed to their Highnesses the Ameers Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, Meer Mahomed, and Sobdar Khans.

2. You will learn from it that, under any circumstances, it would have been requisite to return the original Treaties, sealed and delivered to me by the Ameers, to have the discrepancies in them corrected, and that his Lordship the Governor-General of India has further been pleased to modify the Treaty I gave to the Ameers, by which the Articles are reduced from twenty-three to fourteen in number.

3. The accompanying memorandum briefly explains the nature of the modifications, as well as the cause of them, and will enable you to answer any questions that may be put to you on the subject by their Highnesses.

4. I send you a packet, containing four original Treaties, under the

seal and sign manual of the Governor-General of India; I also send you a Draft of the amended Treaty, and on receiving from each of the Ameers an exact counterpart of it, bearing his seal and signature, you are authorized to deliver to them the original Treaties, ratified by his Lordship.

5. You will take special care to have the Treaties, prepared by the Ameers, carefully compared with the Draft, from which they must not differ in a single letter or point.

6. You will observe from my letter, that the Governor-General does not intend to restore Kurachee; I have been instructed to intimate (as I have done to the Ameers), that his Lordship will severally address their Highnesses on the matter, and until those letters shall reach me, it is my intention to allow everything to remain as it now stands at that sea-port.

7. Should the Ameers show any disposition or wish to enter into discussion with you, it will be your duty to distinctly state to them, that neither you, nor any servant of the British Government, can presume to discuss his Lordship's commands, which have been issued after full consideration, and are to be considered final.

8. I send the Native Agent a copy of my letter to the Ameers, and also a Persian translation of the memorandum spoken of in this letter. You are to deliver to him the Draft of the Treaty to carry to the Ameers with my letters, and to intimate to their Highnesses that the original Treaties are in your possession, and will be sent or delivered in person, the moment you receive the counterparts of the Draft, sealed and signed by the Ameers respectively.

9. Although my health is by no means improved since I left Hyderabad, and I am very anxious to proceed to Bombay, yet I shall deem it to be my duty to remain either here or at Kurachee, until I receive your reply to this communication, and also see what measures the Ameers take, to punish the perpetrators of the foul murder committed on Captain Hand, and which can only be expiated by bringing every miscreant connected with it, to condign punishment at Kurachee. If their Highnesses show any lukewarmness, or attempt to evade the demand I have made of them, it will devolve on me to act up to the warnings I have given them.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 172.

The Resident in Sinde to Noor Mahomed Khan.

THE Treaty consisting of Twenty-three Articles was transmitted for the ratification of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, and as it was stipulated, that the ratification should be exchanged in forty days, his Lordship has been so thoughtful and kind as to vouchsafe four Treaties under his seal and sign manual, and also to send a draft compressed into Fourteen Articles, which was* submitted to his Lordship. I, therefore, request your Highness will have a Treaty carefully prepared from the draft, and deliver it to my Assistant Lieutenant Leckie, who will, in return, hand over to you and the other Ameers, those bearing the seal and signature of his Lordship the Governor-General.

I depend on your Highness, making no delays in doing what I now request.

Your Highness will observe, that no mention is made of Kurachee in the Treaty. I have been instructed to intimate to your Highness and the other Ameers, that letters from the Governor-General to your address, and that of the other three Ameers, will shortly be forwarded; and, in the interim, all matters will be allowed by me, to remain as they are; but it is to be perfectly understood, that his Lordship will not overlook the conduct of the authorities at that place in knowingly and wantonly offering an insult to the British Government, and consequently that the place will not be restored.

* Sic in orig.

The Treaty of Twenty-three Articles which your Highness sealed and sent to me will be returned to you by Lieutenant Leckie, and that gentleman, as well as the Native Agent, will explain the alterations in the Treaty of Fourteen Articles, as well as the cause of them, but you will see that they do not extend to the spirit or purport of that document. Continue to consider me your warm friend, and make me glad with happy accounts of your health and welfare.

Note inclosed in the above.

You are aware that this friend is most anxious to proceed to Bombay, and this is more urgently necessary because for the last three or four days, I have been suffering much, but, for the satisfaction and comfort of your Highness, I will stay either at this place or Kurachee, until I receive the Treaty. You will, therefore, hasten its dispatch; and also, I trust, you are taking steps, agreeably to my former letter, to punish the miscreants who cruelly murdered one officer, and wounded another at Kurachee.

N.B.—The same exactly to the Ameers Nusseer Mahomed, Meer Mahomed, and Sobdar Khans.

No. 173.

Memorandum explanatory of the Modifications in the Treaty and the cause of them.

Tatta, March 29, 1839.

THE Treaty furnished by Colonel Pottinger to their Highnesses consisted of Twenty-three Articles; that now sent by his Lordship the Governor-General of India, consists of Fourteen. The cause of the difference is explained below.

1. The Articles XIII, XIV, and XV, regarding Kurachee, are entirely omitted.

2. The Article XXI regarding the Treaty made with Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, is introduced into the preamble.

3. The Article XX providing for his Highness Meer Sobdar Khan, being exempted from payment on account of the troops, is inserted in Article III.

4. The Article XXII regarding Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, is not deemed proper by the Governor-General, as his Lordship has received no application for a treaty from that chief.

5 The Article XII regarding the British Government not negotiating without the knowledge and concurrence of the Ameers, is likewise deemed to be improper, and has never been introduced into any of the Treaties framed with the Princes or States of India, many of them of far higher rank than the Government of Hyderabad.

6. The Articles V and VI regarding the British Government never introducing its regulations or adawluts into the Ameers' possessions, or listening to, or encouraging complaints, are embodied in one Article (V) of the amended Treaty.

7. The Article IV is entirely omitted because it is at variance with their Highnesses the Ameers being perfectly independent in their possessions.

The above is the explanation of the reduction of IX Articles.

The Articles that are modified are:—

1. That which provides for the Ameers not receiving the mint dues until after the completion of the service of Affghanistan.

2. That the Ameers are to assist with their quota of troops, for the protection of their own possessions, should the British Government ever call on them to do so.

No. 174.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant-Colonel Spiller, commanding at Tatta.

Sir, *Tatta, March* 30, 1839.

YOU are aware that the Ameers attach the highest value to the shikargahs or preserves for hunting, which are formed along the bank of the river, and some of which extend to within seven or eight miles of this place.

2. Their Highnesses deemed them of such importance, that they wanted to introduce an article into the Treaty, expressly providing for their being held sacred, but I told them such a formal procedure was unnecessary.

3. Both before I left Hyderabad, and since my arrival here, I have messages and letters on the same subject, and I therefore do myself the honor to address you, with a view to begging that you will take such steps as seem to you proper, to ensure a rigid attention from all ranks and classes to the promises I have made, that the shikargahs shall in no degree be interfered with by our troops or followers.

4. However we may regret that the Ameers should devote so large a portion of the very finest parts of their country to such purposes, we must neither forget the severity of our forest laws, when England was far further advanced in the scale of civilization than Sinde now is, nor the strict legislative enactments that are in force, even at this hour, on the subject of killing game. We must also bear in mind that the shikargahs provide the only amusement the Ameers take any interest in, and of the depth of that interest some notion will be formed when I tell you that the preserves are kept up at so great an expense, that it is said every deer their Highnesses shoot in them costs 800 rupees. Besides this positive and well-known fact, their Highnesses did not hesitate to distinctly avow to me that they valued their shikargahs beyond even their families and children, which shows that we cannot at all estimate their anxiety regarding them.

5. I avail myself of this opportunity to beg your kind attention to my former instructions about protecting and conciliating all classes of the people, and to repeat my conviction that the preservation of the high character which our troops have already acquired throughout Sinde, is the most important of all subjects, whether as relates to the policy of the British Government, or the comfort and well-being of the troops themselves, who must to a certain extent depend on the natives for supplies, labour, &c.

6. My assistant Lieutenant Whitelock is stationed here, and should he, or any of his establishment, require medical advice at any time, Assistant Surgeon Winchester has been so good as to offer to afford it, with your sanction, which I am sure you will readily grant.

7. I shall submit copies of this letter for the information of the Governor-General of India, and the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 175.

Lieutenant Leckie to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Hyderabad, April* 3, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, and its accompaniments. The four communications to the address of their Highnesses the Ameers of Sinde, I duly sent by the Native Agent, together with the draft of the amended Treaty, to be carefully and exactly transcribed; and at the same time the incorrect Treaties I returned; I desired the Native Agent to inform Meers Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, Meer Mahomed, and Sobdar Khans that I had been

instructed to send, or deliver in person, the original Treaties, the moment I received the counterpart sealed and signed by their Highnesses respectively.

2. After a copy of that draft had been made, and the modifications in the Treaty and cause of them explained to the Ameers by the Native Agent, I was waited upon by a Moonshee, from Meer Sobdar Khan yesterday evening, who said that he had been desired by his Highness to intimate to me, that Article VIII of the amended Treaty, which states, that "letters of friendship, as heretofore, shall pass between brothers and relatives, &c.," differs in the wording from the article on that subject in the Treaty his Highness had before agreed to, and which was now returned to him; that Meer Sobdar Khan's family had always been on the most intimate terms with that of Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, and that these chiefs had, as their fathers had done before them, sworn eternal friendship on the Koran, and to stand by each other in the time of need; that were his Highness to act up to the wording of the new article, and allow the intimacy that had always prevailed to drop into a mere epistolary correspondence, his oath would be broken, and his name and family ruined; his Highness therefore begs of you to favor him with a paper, stating that there may be no impediment to the amicableness and devotion, which has always existed between the two chiefs and their families.

3. All mention of Kurachee having been omitted in the amended Treaty has greatly vexed and astonished Meer Sobdar Khan. His Highness begged to assure me that at the time Her Majesty's ship "Wellesley" was fired upon, he had only one man in the town, who collected his share of the revenue and taxes, and that not a gun was fired or a sword drawn by his order; that he was the warm friend of the British Government, which has been proved during the last few months, and he cannot understand why he should be punished for the acts of others.

4. I desired the Moonshee to inform Meer Sobdar Khan, that his Lordship's commands were final, and that no difference could possibly be made in the Treaty, already sealed and signed, with regard to Kurachee; I added, that his Highness would shortly receive a letter from the Governor-General of India.

5. This evening Syud Tukkee Shah came to me on the part of Meer Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Meer Mahomed Khans, and the following are the objections those chiefs make to the amended Treaty.

Article II. They wish the number of troops to remain in Sinde to be stated, likewise the place named for the station, as in the Treaty of Twenty-three Articles.

Article III. They object to the payment of the three lacs yearly, being either in Company's or Timooree rupees, and require the Korah or Hyderabad rupees instead to be stipulated.

Article IV. They require the names of the towns to be inserted, as in the Treaty of Twenty-three Articles.

Article V. In this they require to be inserted, "Malee wu Moolkee Lozun our Rolun, dust audaz, ne khood bood."

Article IX. They object to this, inasmuch as they cannot move troops out of their own territories.

6. Finally, the omission of Kurachee in the amended Treaty has astonished their Highnesses. The Syud said, that a messenger from Court was close to Kurachee when the firing commenced, and who had instructions to prevent any hostile proceeding; that the single gun that was fired was not shotted; that their Highnesses considered it very hard that they should be so severely dealt with on account of errors of the soldiers. The Syud then went over the old story of the Ameers having given a road through their country to our army, had allowed a Resident at their Court, had given up Tatta as a station for the British troops, and related many other other instances of their condescension and kindness towards us, when I stopped him by saying, the less that was said on the subject the better. I only wished to know what their Highnesses required, if they supposed the Treaty now in my possession under the seal and sign manual of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, could be altered,

they were mistaken, as the commands of his Lordship were to be considered final, and, with regard to Kurachee, a communication would be received by each Ameer from the Governor-General.

7. Syud Tukkee Shah added, their Highnesses begged of me to make known their objections and sentiments to you, as you are their protector and warm friend, and also, they want to send a vakeel to the Governor-General, to induce his Lordship to meet their requests. I replied, that as the Ameers had expressed a wish, I would of course do so, but there was one question to which I required a positive answer, and that was, is it the intention of the Ameers to agree to the Treaty or not? and, if Colonel Pottinger's reply should be a repetition of what I had already said, would they at once accede to the Governor-General's commands? the Syud answered, they willingly agree to the Treaty now, and will abide by what Colonel Pottinger may be pleased to communicate to them.

8. I have attempted to the best of my ability to give you a correct statement of what has passed. I offered to wait upon their Highnesses, but they preferred sending their agents; and, from all I can learn, the Ameers of Sinde, one and all, have no intention of accepting the amended Treaty, their object being to persevere in abiding by the terms of the Treaty of Twenty-three Articles already signed and sealed by them.

I have, &c.,

J. LECKIE.

No. 176.

The Resident in Sinde to Brigadier Valiant.

Sir, *Camp, Goojah, April* 3, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt, this day, of your letter of the 1st instant, giving cover to a further deposition regarding the gang of miscreants who murdered Captain Hand, and beg to refer you to my letters of the 27th ultimo and 1st instant for a reply.

To prevent all future mistakes and misunderstandings on the subject of camels, &c., that may be stolen, I think it right to distinctly record my opinion that we have no pretence for insisting on the Ameers of Hyderabad making such losses good.

Their Highnesses are ready and anxious to assist us, as far as in their power, in suppressing robberies, but I have to point out to you that it requires time to do so, and that the rule which exists in different parts of India of making villages responsible for goods or animals stolen, and traced into their grounds, never has, that I can discover, existed in Sinde, nor should I consider it just or fitting to attempt to introduce it under the present circumstances of this province, in which I am only astonished at the tranquillity and freedom from plundering that exists, when I reflect on the general character of the population, and the vast temptations which are now unavoidably held forth in every direction to excite their cupidity.

The Ameers have, in the case of the sixteen camels carried away by robbers on the 10th ultimo, promised to see them either restored or paid for, and I will in proper time take care that one or other of these is done; but we cannot reasonably hope to change the habits of a whole nation in a day, and when I listen to gentlemen advocating the necessity of introducing into Sinde the regulations referred to in the 3rd paragraph of this letter, I am disposed to inquire from them whether they ever heard of its being applied to Bombay, or hundreds of large stations under our rule?

I by no means question the wisdom and advantages of the rule in question as strengthening, in a vast degree, the police of the country; but it is, perhaps, less applicable to Sinde than any other portion of Asia, not only because it is totally unknown even by hearsay, but because many of the plunderers who infest this province are men who own no authority, who have no fixed place of residence, and who have, in general, the ready

means of flying into mountainous or desert tracts where pursuit would be almost hopeless, or of taking refuge in the dominions of neighbouring lawless petty States, into which the Sinde Governments dare not follow them unless they are prepared to go to war.

I doubt not but the lapse of time, combined with the examples which our energy and means cannot fail to secure, will work a gradual and salutary change, but, till then, our troops must be on the alert to protect themselves; and it should be always borne in mind that a blow struck against robbers at the moment, will have a greater moral effect than one hundred appeals to the Ameers through the political authorities. In instances where the latter is required, it should likewise invariably be recollected that those authorities must exercise their own judgment, both as to the manner and period of acting on them.

Copies of this letter will be sent for the information of the Governor-General of India, and the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 177.

Sir A. Burnes to the Envoy with Shah Shooja.

Sir, *Kelat, April* 3, 1839.

I HAVE now the honor to report to you that, with reference to the 6th, 7th, and 8th paragraphs of my letter of yesterday's date, relating to the intrigue carrying on between Candahar and Sinde, I have had the good fortune to come into possession of all the documents concerning it.

2. I intercepted these letters through the agency of Abdool Wahab Khan, a Populzye Dooranee from Herat, on his way to join the Shah. I found him so disappointed at the reports in circulation of the Shah's treatment of his countrymen that he was about to return to Herat: but I of course contradicted these reports, detained him on account of his respectability, and he tendered his services to me. On my making inquiries as to Meerza Ibrahim's proceedings, he volunteered his services to place me in possession of his papers, and I did not hesitate to accept them.

3. The party left this for Candahar three days ago; Abdool Wahab overtook them with a party of Affghans, about sixty miles from Kelat, and announced himself as the bearer of a "rukum" from the Shah to bring them all to his presence for their traitorous conduct. After a good deal of parley, in which swords were drawn, but not used, Abdool Wahab agreed to let all the party pass on if they would surrender the letters they were carrying, and, this compact being sworn to on the Koran, the letters were produced, and, with them, the credentials of the Elchee himself. I transmit these papers in original to you, and annex translations of the most important of them. I am also glad to observe that my proceedings in the matter are entirely veiled, as the man who seized them is a personal enemy of the Candahar chiefs, and actually on his way to join His Majesty from Kelat.

4. The credentials of Meerza Ibrahim fully bear out the object, being to bring about a league with the Sindians and Persians, since the Ameer of Hyderabad makes mention of the fact, and is compelled to admit that his late Treaty with the British Government prevents his meeting the Sirdar's wishes, though he significantly adds at the end, that every one knows his own interest: but the Minister of the Ameer in his letter expresses his anxiety to see the Chief of Candahar. Not so guarded, however, is the Chief of Meerpore. Shere Mahomed Khan, you will observe, openly proclaims his enmity to the English, and his desire to join and assist the chief of Cabool.

5. It is, however, clear that we have not come to the full extent of this intrigue, for the agent, as his credentials show, is the bearer of messages, and he is requested to bring back by messages, all the objects

of the parties which are to prove beneficial to both Governments, and the number of complimentary letters, in all eight, show how anxious has been the desire to conciliate on the part of the Sindians.

6. It is apparent that all this intercourse between Sinde, as it is now placed, and any State, much less a hostile one, is at variance with the letter and spirit of the Treaty lately concluded, and what is further, I am credibly informed that one Moolla Nanuk has been left in Sinde by this party. It seems to me that this state of things calls alike for the attention and vigilance of Government.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 178.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan to Sirdar Kohendil Khan, Chief of Candahar.

YOUR gratifying letter came through the respectable Meerza Mahomed Ibrahim, and made me happy; he also gave me the two horses which you sent to me as a present.

You have informed me about your contracting friendship with Mahomed Shah, the King of Persia. You know that we have been long the friends of the English, and lately a treaty of lasting friendship has been concluded, which has strengthened the intimacy between us; however, every one knows best what is for his own good.

The Meerza is on his way back to your quarters, and the rest is all well here.

No. 179.

Shere Mahomed Khan Talpoor, to Dost Mahomed Khan.

THE affairs of the English are well and particularly known to you. The other party who hold shares in the country of Sinde, have acceded to the wishes of the British Government and brought them into this country; but I am not at all pleased with the influence of the English, and resolved to join and befriend you; you should be prepared to remedy this immediately, and answer me with all possible haste, that I may be able to do it in time.

All is well here, and I beg you will occasionally send me letters with your welfare.

No. 180.

The Native Agent at Hyderabad to the Resident in Sinde.—(*Received at Kurachee, April* 7, 1839.)

AFTER stating that he had received the instructions written to him from Tatta, and delivered the letters to the Ameers, he goes on to say, I told their Highnesses that the question as to Hyderabad or Company's rupees had been left to the Governor-General, who had named the latter; that one lac of rupees each was nothing for securing the protection of their country; that with regard to Kurachee, insolence had been shewn to the Admiral, and their Highnesses ought to thank God it was no worse. They replied, that they were subjects of the British Government, and that it was bound to provide for their subsistence; that they had paid ten lacs of rupees already, and eleven more remained to be paid; that it was impossible, if Kurachee was taken from them. I argued at great length as to their means, and pointed out that Shikarpore and its dependencies might be almost said to be a gift. They declared their expenses would be beyond their receipts; that they would pay the money, but could never consent to give up their country without even a cause. I interrupted

them by saying they had brought it (the Kurachee affair) on themselves. They denied it; said they had put 100,000 men to sleep (quieted there); that they would send vakeels to get the Governor-General to annul the cession of Kurachee, and to fix Hyderabad rupees in lieu of Company's; that they had no power to fight with the British Government, nor had they ever thought of it; that they were all friendship and obedience; and that they considered the treaties, whilst with Mr. Leckie, to be with themselves. I advised them not to send vakeels, and said nothing would be done except through the Resident.

Before I left them, they proposed to give up three shares of Kurachee for fifteen years, in lieu of the money payment, and, at the end of that time, if the Governor-General was satisfied with their conduct, the place might be restored; the troops might be kept there in the mean time. Kurachee had produced in old times five lacs of rupees per annum; it was now much less, but would again improve under us.

Meer Sobdar Khan said that he had not even one sepoy at Kurachee when the British troops landed there; that he was bound to Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, by oaths which he could not break; that his friendship for the British Government required no new treaty; that he considered the intention of taking Kurachee to be unworthy the friendship and honor of the British Government; that he had never held any kind of intercourse with the King of Persia, or any one else.

The second time I saw the other Ameers, they went over the same ground of argument. They observed, that the Beloochee chiefs would say, that the Treaty had been reduced from twenty-three Articles to fourteen, and might be so shortly to seven; that they (the Ameers) were helpless; that they entreated, first, that the cantonment might be fixed distant from Hyderabad; second, that the number of the troops might be defined; third, that the British Government might not interfere in the internal disputes; fourth, that the towns and cities might all be named in the Treaty; and fifth, that three lacs of Hyderabad rupees might be named as the amount they were to pay. They further asserted, that the only gun fired at Kurachee was the usual signal, nor had a single sword been removed from the scabbard; that the man who fired the signal gun should be turned away; that they could not pay three lacs, as well as give up Kurachee, and retain the means of subsisting themselves; that they would fall in arrears; that they had paid the tribute to the Kings of Cabool formerly in Hyderabad rupees; and that they begged Colonel Pottinger to settle everything, so as to supersede the necessity for sending vakeels.

No. 181.

The Resident in Sinde to Brigadier Valiant.

Sir, *Kurachee, April 7*, 1839.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, I have the honor to express my entire concurrence in your intention of following up any robbers or others who may come into, or near, this camp.

I have already recommended to the Ameers of Hyderabad to send an officer to remain here, to accompany any party you may find it necessary to send out, but I have great hopes from the measures their Highnesses have adopted and are pursuing, that you will not in future be molested, at least not by anything beyond occasional thieves who may attempt to come into the camp at night to pilfer.

I take this occasion to distinctly state, that nothing that has come to my knowledge since I left Hyderabad, or subsequent to my arrival at this place, leads me to give the most remote credence to any hostile designs on the part of either the Government or Chiefs of this country, and I cannot but express my regret at finding almost every person in such a state of unnecessary alarm.

I have been myself travelling all over the country for the last ten days without a single sepoy, and there are, at this moment, boats with treasure and other valuable loads going up the Indus totally unguarded.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 182.

The Envoy with Shah Shooja to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Camp, Pahar, April* 8, 1839.

I DO not attach the same importance that Sir A. Burnes seems to attach to the papers seized on Meerza Ibrahim. The intrigues which they develope were made known by the discovery of the documents some time ago on the *soi-disant* Persian prince. To me it seems that the answer of the Ameers of Hyderabad to the overtures of the Chiefs of Candahar, was highly becoming and correct; and, as for the reply of the Meerpore Chief, Sir John Keane is of opinion that his character and means are too contemptible to merit notice.

No. 183.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant Leckie.

Sir, *Sinde Residency, April* 8, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, in reply to mine of the 29th ultimo.

2. I regret to find that their Highnesses the Ameers had shewn a a wish to procrastinate regarding the settlement of the Treaty.

3. I inclose to you an English version of a memorandum which I have this day sent to the Native Agent for their Highnesses' notice, and which I hope will have some weight with them.

4. Any reply you may receive further, you can transmit to me at Bombay, as I am to sail for that place to-morrow.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 184.

Memorandum by the Resident in Sinde for the Ameers of Hyderabad.

Sinde Residency, April 8, 1839.

THEIR Highnesses the Ameers say that the three lacs of rupees on account of the troops, were fixed to be paid in Hyderabad currency. This I deny. I, first, mentioned "Company's rupees," which are the same as "Tymooree;" but, afterwards, at the entreaty of Ameers, consented to refer the point to the Governor-General.

2. Their Highnesses the Ameers request the names of all the cities, &c., to be entered in the Treaty. This is never done, and, in fact, cannot be done. The Ameers need not require more than the expression "all their present possessions." Had the British Government any intention to interfere with those cities, &c., it would at once declare so.

3. If their Highnesses the Ameers wish to send a vakeel to the Governor-General, I beg they will do so. I have already written to his Lordship about their vakeel both privately and publicly, and I doubt not but he will be received with due respect and attention, though his success in his negotiations must, of course, solely depend upon his Lordship's pleasure.

4. I beg to point out to their Highnesses the Ameers, that the affair of Kurachee is entirely distinct from my negotiations. I have reported

most fully to the Governor-General, that their Highnesses' conduct has been most friendly and proper since the Treaty was agreed to; and, if his Lordship gives up the claim to Kurachee, I shall be very glad, but I have no power to do so. I shall now report all that their Highnesses have stated on the subject, and they may depend on my wish to serve them in any way that I can.

5. Their Highnesses request, that I will fix the number of troops and also the stations for them, but those points are specially desired to be left to the pleasure of the Governor-General. In the mean time, I will note all they say, for his Lordship's consideration, with my opinions, and until his Lordship's orders reach me, everything, both as to the troops and Kurachee, will remain as it now is. This is all I can do, and their Highnesses are, I think, bound to depend on the friendship and justice of his Lordship.

6. His Highness Meer Sobdar Khan has stated, that he could not break his friendly relations with Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore; no one has ever asked, or wished, him so to do. The British Government considers all the Ameers of Sinde (viz., of Hyderabad, Khyrpore, and Meerpore) one family, and has no intention of interfering with their intercourse, as it has always been established, whether by visits or letters. The Article in the Treaty only applies to foreign States, and not to any part of Sinde.

7. I am, from bad health, forced to go to Bombay for change of air. I should otherwise have gladly stayed here to settle this matter. In the mean time I need not enlarge to the Ameers on the advantage of their doing everything to please the Governor-General. Let their actions correspond with their words, and trust to his Lordship to do what is just and reasonable. Let them banish all suspicion from their breasts, and not throw impediments in the way of a final settlement, by trifling cavils on points of no importance.

8. I shall send the Treaty regarding the payment on account of Shikarpore to the Governor-General, for his Lordship's ratification, and also to Mr. Macnaghten for His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk's confirmation: on this subject their Highnesses may set their minds at rest.

9. I hope this memorandum will be satisfactory to their Highnesses. I repeat, that their only wise course is to trust to his Lordship, and to my desire to do all in my power to meet their objects, so long as they are friendly and obedient to the British Government.

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 185.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, April* 11, 1839.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th ultimo, and to acquaint you, in reply, that his Lordship has experienced great satisfaction from your report of the indication of more cordial feelings of friendship on the part of the Ameers of Hyderabad.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 186.

Sir A. Burnes to the Envoy with Shah Shooja.

Sir, *April* 12, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the duplicate of your letter of the 24th ultimo (the original having miscarried), calling on me to give my opinions and sentiments on the mode of carrying into effect the resolution

of the Governor-General, announced in Mr. Maddock's letter of the 4th ultimo, to fix on Meer Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore, the entire quota of the money contribution by that principality.

2. Meer Moobaruck Khan is the second brother of Meer Roostum Khan. He holds a little less than one-third of the Khyrpore territories, is very miserly in his household, and universally reputed to have wealth in jewels and money. He is therefore certainly able to give a lac of rupees annually towards the payment of the British force; and he should be called upon to pay down at once, while we are strong in Sinde, the sum of seven lacs of rupees. I speak with confidence of his ability to pay the lac annually, and also advisedly on his possessing considerable wealth to enable him to fulfil the demand of seven lacs.

3. The fertile territory lying between Subzulkote and Roree nearly all belongs to Moobaruck Khan, and includes the fine villages and districts of Ghotkee, with Malsder, Choonga, Dadoota, and Uzeezpore. He has also estates in the neighbourhood of Khyrpore itself, and towards Hyderabad; but, besides this, Sukkur, and the country halfway between it and Shikarpore, as well as a share of that town, are his property; and these are close to the position of our troops, and can either be sequestrated, *pro tempore*, or threatened to be so, to compel the Ameer to give in to our terms.

4. I beg respectfully to state my perfect coincidence in the determinations of the Governor-General on this subject, and I am sure that the British nation has no enemy more rancorous in Sinde than Meer Moobaruck Khan, and policy and justice alike call for his punishment; and the lessening of his powers to do evil, by diminishing his resources, is the most suitable.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

No. 187.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Brigadier Gordon, commanding the troops at Shikarpore.

(Extract.) *Simla, April* 18, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant, inclosing a report from the Garrison Engineer of Bukkur, on the dilapidated state of that fortress.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that it is not the intention of the Governor-General to authorize any extensive repairs or improvements of the fortifications of Bukkur. It will be sufficient that the place is defensible against any attack which, under present circumstances, may seem possible, that precautions are taken to prevent the walls from falling, and further dilapidations occurring, and to keep in adequate repair the buildings in the fort which are used for public purposes.

No. 188.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Mr. Ross Bell, appointed Political Agent at Shikarpore.

(Extract.) *Simla, April* 22, 1839.

5. NO settlement has yet been concluded with the Khyrpore Ameers, respecting the amount to be enforced from one of them, in lieu of the same exemption from future demands of sovereignty on the part of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which the Ameers of Hyderabad have agreed to purchase. Circumstances, arising out of the state of the country, and the advance of the army, may have, with the absence of that information which has been required from Sir A. Burnes, deferred the opening of a negotiation with Meer Moobaruck on the subject. Meer Roostum, the

other chief of Khyrpore, has, you will perceive, been exonerated from the contributions on this account, in consequence of the service which he has already rendered to the expedition. The most fitting opportunity must be taken to enter upon this subject with Meer Moobaruck; and, if the negotiation is left to you, the Governor-General rests assured that you will bring it to a satisfactory conclusion.

9. The Governor-General trusts that the influence of a British Agent on the spot will effect much to remedy the evils of the present state of disorganization, and that the chiefs and the people, looking up to his authority, may be prevailed upon to desist from their present lawless habits. By learning what are their feelings and their relative position to one another,—by adopting a tone of conciliation,—by making them assured that we have no views of aggrandizement in the temporary establishment of a military force in Upper Sinde,—and by appealing to their own interests in the good service which we offer them as our allies, his Lordship cannot doubt that you will be able to convert them into friends, and to effect a permanent amelioration of the state of the country.

11. You will perceive that it is his Lordship's expectation to be able, at no distant period, to introduce steam-vessels into the Indus, to ply regularly up and down the river. Your best attention will be given to this subject, and to the importance of improving and augmenting the navigation of that stream by the boats of the country. The Ameers of Lower Sinde have agreed by treaty to abolish all river-tolls; and, if you find that any are levied in Upper Sinde, you will be pleased to report the particulars for the information and orders of the Governor-General.

No. 189.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *No.* 13. *May* 9, 1839.

I HAVE deputed an officer of tried energy and intelligence, Mr. Ross Bell, of the Bengal Civil Service, to be my Political Agent at Shikarpore; and from the measures which have been commenced by Lieutenant Eastwick, the able assistant to Colonel Pottinger, who has held temporary charge at Shikarpore, and which will be completed under Mr. Bell's superintendence, I anticipate, cordially supported as these measures will be by Brigadier Gordon, commanding in Upper Sinde, that comparative order and quiet will be, ere long, established in the country, from the Indus to the Bolan Pass.

16. The Ameers of Hyderabad have not yet ratified the modified Treaty transmitted. But I rely with confidence on the judgment and address of Colonel Pottinger for the successful issue of this negotiation.

No. 190.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Envoy and Minister with Shah Shooja.

(Extract.) *Simla, May* 16, 1839.

THERE are no other points in the letters now acknowledged on which his Lordship deems it at present necessary to make any observation, excepting to remark that in Sir A. Burnes' correspondence, the liability of Meer Moobaruck to contribute, like the Ameers of Hyderabad, to the immediate payment of Shah Shooja, in release of that Prince's claim of sovereignty over Khyrpore, would seem to have been overlooked.

No. 191.

Moonshee Jeth Anund, the Native Agent at Hyderabad, to the Resident in Sinde, dated May 19, 1839.—(*Received at Mandavie, May* 28.)

I HAVE received your letter from Bombay, and delivered those for the Ameers which accompanied it. Their Highnesses repeated all their former remarks as to not being able to fulfil the Treaty of Fourteen Articles, and prayed that you would get that of Twenty-three Articles confirmed, and likewise Hyderabad rupees fixed, by the Governor-General.

Sobdar Khan (who never enters into discussion with the other Ameers) observed, that he concluded you had not got his letter, as the one you had sent to him was no answer to it.

The Ameers have seized twenty persons, suspected of being thieves and plunderers, and sent them to Kurachee, where twelve of the camels were recognized as a part of those stolen from the camp there. Only four or five men of those seized admit that they were present at Captain Hand's murder, and all the others declare themselves to be innocent. The Ameers had given orders for the execution of some of them, but, in consequence of the objections and doubts stated by the Colonel (Valiant) and the other gentlemen, the matter is suspended. Noor Mahomed Khan observed, that they (the Ameers) would get disgrace instead of thanks and approbation, and desired me to beg you to send instructions, adding, that it was his opinion that the five men who confess they were present at the murder of Captain Hand should be put to death; with respect to the others, he suggested their release. He said the list of names given by the prisoner Photah was absurd; that several men were named in it who had been actually in their graves for two or three years, and that Sahib Khan Choota was in no deegre implicated.

The Nawab Mahomed Khan Talpoor (the manager of Meer Meer Mahomed) was sent by the three other Ameers to Sobdar Khan, to propose a new treaty amongst themselves, by which they were to treat with the British Government as one individual. The real object of this was to restore Noor Mahomed Khan's supremacy, but Sobdar refused to listen to the overture. Presents have come from Khyrpore, but Noor Mahomed Khan hesitated about accepting them, and accused Roostum Khan of unfriendliness in not writing to inquire about the cholera when it was raging. Roostum Khan made a most humble apology, and Syud Tukkee Shah is entrusted with messages to him. It is settled, that vakeels are to be sent to the Governor-General. The presents are all ready, and the Ameers ordered some addition to the style in addressing his Lordship, and asked me if it was enough; my reply was, that as they had written a petition (ureeza) to Mahomed Shah, they ought to do the same to the Governor-General, which has been accordingly done.

The Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee, and others, asked in the public Durbar the object of the mission, and whether it was sent to complain of Colonel Pottinger. Meerza Khoosroo, who was present, inquired how long Colonel Pottinger was to be their ruin. The other party said that Colonel Pottinger had done nothing without orders; that they would lose his friendship if they sent vakeels; that he was a good and wise man, and had at the last moment prevented a war. The Nawab added, in conclusion, that the Ameers might do as they liked about deputing vakeels, but not to talk of complaints. In the afternoon of the day the above conversation passed, the Ameers began to consider whether it was advisable to send vakeels to please others, and decided on deferring it for another month, which they accordingly intimated to me, and desired me to write to you to send replies to their former messages as soon as possible. To this remark I replied agreeably to your former memorandum. Noor Mahomed Khan said, that they wished to get everything settled through you, but that their people pestered them about loss of revenue, &c.; that they trusted you would return quickly, and send such replies as would afford assurance and comfort to their relations and dependents; and that they had no other sentiment towards the British Government but fidelity and obedience.

Noor Mahomed Khan, at another interview, privately observed, that he had not written to the Persian Prince since he left Hyderabad; that if Meer Shadad or Nusseer Khan had done so, let them be called on to answer for it; that he hoped the sum fixed for the expense of the troops would be recovered from each of the (three) Ameers, and those who refuse to pay to be alone punished. He further asked when the subsidy and the remainder of the Shah's money would be required.

The violent disputes about boundaries between Meer Shere Mahomed and Nusseer Khan have again broken out, and each party has sent troops as before.

Noor Mahomed Khan sent for me to-day, and remarked, that he had heard that Lieutenant Eastwick was entertaining Beloochees; that he had, amongst others, engaged Shadad Khan Chandia, who was a most notorious plunderer, and ought to be put to death instead of being rewarded, which was, besides, a bad example to others. He (Noor Mahomed) therefore requested you would prohibit Lieutenant Eastwick from employing any such people.

Jan Khan has returned from Khyrpore. It is said that Meer Roostum Khan is to come to Sewan to meet Noor Mahomed Khan.

An allowance was formerly assigned to Noor Mahomed Khan, for Durbar expenses; Sobdar Khan has now demanded that it shall be stopped, and the expenses divided amongst the Ameers; Noor Mahomed had no pretence for refusal, and reluctantly agreed. He is so much disgusted, that he sometimes talks of going to reside at Lakkat (near Sewan) for good, and founding a town there.

No. 192.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Lieutenant Eastwick.

Sir, *Simla, June* 3, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 20th ultimo, transmitting a translation of a memorandum addressed to Meer Roostum and Meer Moobaruck Khans on the subject of the contribution from Khyrpore to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in consideration of his renouncing his claims of sovereignty over that portion of the territories of Sinde.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that, though the Governor-General might have been disposed in some degree to modify the terms of your requisition, yet, considering the unsettled state of the country and the risk of increasing the disposition to oppose the establishment of order under the control of officers of the British Government, the Governor-General thinks it was judicious to defer the demand which you were instructed to make on Meer Moobaruck Khan, and his Lordship would now leave the time and manner of following up your requisition to the discretion of the Political Officer on the spot, who will be the best judge how, and when, it should be made.

3. His Lordship observes, that in the 5th Article of your memorandum you have avoided naming the sum which you were instructed in the first instance to demand from Meer Moobaruck Khan, and have intimated only that he will be required to pay a just portion of the general contribution of the Ameers of Sinde. This deviation from your instructions appears to his Lordship to have been prudent, under present circumstances; and he would be glad to learn at what amount the contribution may appear to you, after mature inquiry, to be fairly leviable.

I am, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 193.

Lieutenant Leckie to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Hyderabad, June* 19, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to transmit to you four letters from their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, and to inform you, that Meers Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Meer Mahomed Khans, have determined upon deputing Meer Ismael Shah and his son Sadig Shah, as Vakeels to his Lordship the Governor-General of India, to endeavour to induce his Lordship to accede to the alteration in the amended Treaty of Fourteen Articles, which have been before brought to your notice.

2. This sudden resolution of dispatching a Vakeel to his Lordship has been caused by news their Highnesses have just received, that the Persian army was on the frontier of Seistan, and that the Island of Karrack had been attacked. The real object of their Highnesses is to delay as much as possible in signing the Treaty, as they are anxious to hear which army is victorious, the British or the Persian. Should the former, they will not hesitate to sign the Treaty; but, if the latter, we may expect them to act inimically towards us.

3. Meers Noor Mahomed and Meer Mahomed Khans have been trying to prevail on Meer Sobdar Khan to join them in sending the Vakeel, promising to pay all expenses for him. His reply was, that he would not mind it, if it were for pure friendship; but, under the present circumstances of this deputation, he would have nothing to say to it, but should he wish to make a request, it should be done to you without troubling the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
J. D. LECKIE.

No. 194.

The Resident in Sinde to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Mandavie, June* 20, 1839.

YOUR confidential letter of the 9th instant, accompanied by a copy of your official dispatch of that date to the address of the Secretary with the Governor-General of India, reached me late yesterday afternoon.

2. I instantly did myself the honor to reply to your private letter, and as I have arranged for a transcript of my answer being transmitted, for the information of his Lordship the Governor-General, it is unnecessary for me here to recapitulate its contents.

3. The more I review and reflect on the progress of events in Lower Sinde since the army under Sir John Keane passed Hyderabad, the less reason do I see for imagining that the Ameers have any intention of trying their strength with us. That two of them (Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans) may not be sincere in their professions of friendship and loyalty I am ready to admit; but the total division of interests, and the absence of cordiality which has always existed between them and their cousin Sobdar Khan, (if not Meer Meer Mahomed Khan,) are of themselves the surest guarantee that the whole of them will never act with unanimity, and, without that feeling, I hold it not only to be impossible that they could do us any injury, but firmly believe they would shrink with terror from the attempt, which they must well know would bring on them in the end final and irretrievable ruin.

4. I had occasion some time ago to point out to Brigadier Valiant, (who then commanded in Lower Sinde,) that much of the apparent enmity of Noor Mahomed Khan and his party arose from their absolute fears. When he sent spies to Kurachee to ascertain what the transports from Bombay were bringing, and to find out the number of troops, guns, &c., I was satisfied he did not take this step from any design of attacking us, but because he feared we were preparing to overrun the country; and I

sent him a message to say, that he need not have taken the trouble, for I would, had he asked me, have furnished him with a memorandum of all he wished to know.

5. This I consider to be the proper way to treat a chief of his suspicious and treacherous character, and the language I have invariably held to him and all others, (not only before I was forced to quit Sinde from bad health, but in my last letters written within these few days,) is that he has nothing to trust to but the justice and moderation of the British Government, and that he must show his full reliance in the exercise of those qualities by the Governor-General, by sealing and ratifying the amended Treaty, before I can presume to submit his appeal to his Lordship.

6. The vague manner in which natives are apt to speak of time leads me to conjecture that the Khyrpore Minister's assertion as to Jan Khan having been at that place so recently is incorrect. A letter which I received at Bombay, previous to the 13th of May, from the Native Agent at Hyderabad, informed me that Jan Khan had gone to Khyrpore with presents on the occasion of the nuptials of Roostum Khan's grandson, and I think it is full a month since I casually heard of his return to Hyderabad.

7. Since then, the intelligence of the capture of Candahar, and the punishment awaiting Mehrab Khan of Kelat have come to the Ameers' ears, and I confess it seems to me a paradox to fancy that they would select such a moment to raise the standard of rebellion, which all their letters to me show to be the light in which they would now view a war with us. We must also not give implicit confidence to the communications of the Khyrpore Chief. I have always expressed my belief in the personal friendly disposition of Roostum Khan, and I also think his Minister is actuated by the same sentiments; but their notions of veracity and policy are widely different from ours, and it is, perhaps, only natural in men, placed as they are, to try to enhance the value of their own conduct at the expense of their neighbours and relations.

8. I may conclude this letter by recording my opinion, that in the extreme case contemplated by your letter, the measure you propose of sending any troops that could be spared from Upper Sinde down the river to Hyderabad ought on no account to be resorted to, until a sufficient force could be collected to invest and subdue the capital. Any partial or imperfect demonstration would only have the effect of inspiriting our enemies by demonstrating our weakness, whereas, by our troops standing on the defensive at all their present stations, the Ameers would either be forced to move to attack them by piecemeal, (which I do not think they have the means of doing from their want of artillery, *matériel*, &c.,) or would find themselves exposed to an enormous expense (in their eyes) in paying and provisioning the rabble they might have brought together, and which would, to a moral certainty, lead to famine, or at least to scarcity, to discontent, recrimination, and, perhaps, to family broils and bloodshed, the whole terminating with the dispersion of the levies, and the chiefs being necessitated to throw themselves at our feet; for you will perceive that they have no place to which they could fly, and the fearful resolution to which they positively came of putting all their wives and female relations to death, when they believed we were determined to force them to hostilities, affords undeniable testimony of the desperate state to which they are sensible such an event as war with the British Government would reduce them.

9. I shall send a transcript of this letter to the Secretary with the Governor-General, and I forward the original under a flying seal to my assistants at Tatta and Hyderabad, in order that those gentlemen may understand my views. I shall also have a copy of it communicated in the strictest confidence to Lieutenant-Colonel Spiller, the officer commanding in Lower Sinde, with my earnest injunction that he shall do nothing that can betray the slightest degree of apprehension or doubt of our perfect ability to defend ourselves.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 195.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Bhooj, July* 6, 1839.

THE last connected report of my proceedings which I had the honor to submit, for the information of the Governor-General of India, was by my dispatch of the 7th of March, but I believe and trust, that my original letters to your address, and the transcripts of correspondence with my assistants and other officers which I have since handed up, will have kept his Lordship minutely acquainted with everything that has been passing, and will have prevented any inconvenience or anxiety from the delay, which has partly arisen from my temporary absence from my station, partly from ill health putting it out of my power frequently to do more than attend to my current duties, and the unceasing references which required immediate attention; and partly from my intentionally deferring the present communication in the hope, that I should be enabled to render it more complete with regard to my negotiations, than is yet in my power.

2. I now propose to lay before his Lordship, as briefly as possible, my verbal and written intercourse subsequent to the above period, with the Ameers of Hyderabad, as well as my candid sentiments on the chief points that come under discussion, and I feel assured that, whether the Governor-General shall see cause to coincide in my humble opinions or not, they will be received and considered with indulgence, as the result of long and unbiassed reflection combined with the sincerest solicitude to fulfil, to the best of my power, the high trust that has been reposed in me.

3. I was unable, from sickness, to visit any of the Ameers previous to quitting Hyderabad, which I did on the 23rd of March. Their Highnesses Noor Mahomed, Sobdar, and Nusseer Mahomed Khans sent their children and ministers almost daily to inquire after my health; and the evening but one before I left the capital, the last named chief came himself, with four or five attendants, to pay me a parting visit. Nothing could be more friendly and satisfactory than what passed at all these interviews, but it would be to no purpose to enter into details, as the exact tenor of them will be found in the 3rd and succeeding paragraphs of my dispatch already named. Their Highnesses each wished to depute an officer of rank to attend me to Kurachee, but to this I would not consent, and it was at last arranged that Zynoolabdeen Shah should accompany me on the part of the whole four.

4. I arrived at Tatta on the 24th of March, and was detained there by business until the 3rd of April. On the 26th of the former month I was honored by the receipt of your dispatch of the 11th, conveying the Governor-General's most gratifying remarks on my measures (as reported on the 13th of February), as well as his Lordship's further commands; and in obedience to the latter, I sent instructions to Lieutenant Leckie, whose answer reached me at Kurachee, by express, on the 7th of April, and was acknowledged the next day.

5. The same messengers brought me letters from the Native Agent and all the Ameers. Those from Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Meer Mahomed Khans, were verbatim the same, and they referred me to Syud Sadig Shah, whom they intimated they had dispatched with messages to me. The pith of their letters may be summed up in a few sentences, and was as follows:—

1st. They denied that the gun was shotted which was fired from the fort at Kurachee, but, as it had given offence to the Admiral, they had dismissed and punished the man who fired it.

2nd. They prayed that the word "Hyderabad rupees" might be substituted for "Company's" in the Treaty.

3rd. They detailed their unavoidable expenses and their means.

4th. They proposed to send a vakeel to the Governor-General to obtain the release of Kurachee, and to get "Hyderabad" rupees fixed.

5th. They stated they would send moonshees to take copies of the Amended Treaty.

6. Sobdar Khan's letter was shorter. He simply said, he had not one man at Kurachee except an accountant; that he never had paid any portion of the military expenses there; that he would await my answer, and afterwards, if I desired it, send his moonshee to copy the Treaty.

7. The substance of the Native Agent's letter is herewith inclosed.

8. Syud Sadig Shah joined me at Kurachee on the 7th of April, and was with me for some hours that and the following day. It would fill many sheets of paper were I to attempt to record all that passed, and which it would be moreover useless to do, as being in a great degree irrelevant to the immediate subject on which I am writing. He had a memorandum with him to the precise effect of the Ameers' letters; and, with reference to the first point into which I have divided it, he repeated the denial, that the gun which was fired had a ball in it, and declared if we could establish that it had, the Ameers would not only resign all pretensions to Kurachee, but would give us Hyderabad into the bargain. He said, "Noor Mahomed Khan particularly desired me to remind you that just two years ago you wrote to him as a friend to allow the harbour of Kurachee to be surveyed, declaring it to be an object of curiosity, and also worthy of a great Government, like the English. You have now sent an army, and attacked and taken it. We know you to be powerful. You say you are just and moderate; now is the time to prove it, not only to all Sinde, but to the whole world." At another period of his conversation he put the same question which had been asked me by Syud Tukkee Shah at Noor Mahomed Khan's desire, many weeks before. I had observed that the British Government had no intention of making any demand upon that of Hyderabad, except what was reasonable and fair. The interrogatory addressed to me, was, "Who is to be the judge of what is fair and reasonable?" with (in Sadig Shah's case) the additional remark, "If you leave it to us to decide, we will say, that three lacs of Hyderabad rupees is such, and to that payment the Ameers have already agreed."

9. On this latter topic I had no difficulty in replying to him, but on the subject of Kurachee, I confess that a number of facts had come to my knowledge which put it out of my power to combat, to my own satisfaction, the arguments that were adduced; and, although I am not prepared to go to the extent of saying, that I lament what took place there, yet I do not hesitate to avow my conviction, that it might have been advantageously avoided, and that, under all the circumstances, it happily furnishes cause for thankfulness and gratification that no lives were sacrificed.

10. The facts to which I allude I shall proceed to offer for his Lordship's consideration, premising that some of the most important of them were derived from sources in no way connected with the Ameers, and that they are therefore in my estimation, entitled to the more weight.

11. I had always been aware, that it was usual to fire a gun from the fort at the mouth of the Kurachee harbour, when a square-rigged vessel came in sight of, or approached the place. This I had myself witnessed when I went to that port in 1809, with the mission under Mr. Smith; and I likewise know it was done when His Majesty's frigate "Challenger" anchored off it in 1830. The Ameers explained this to me before I left Hyderabad, and further said they had heard that it was the custom at the light-house at Bombay. They then likewise made the same assertion as to there having been no shot in the gun, that is stated above; but as I had not at that time received your dispatch, I did not pay much regard to the business.

12. Amongst the variety of chiefs who paid their respects to me during my journey from Hyderabad to Kurachee was the Jam of the Jokeyas, whose claims to his Lordship's favourable notice I have already submitted. After he had sat with me some time, he begged to be permitted to call in his nephew, to which I, of course, assented, and the young chief, with ten or twelve of his people, was introduced. Before the party took leave, the nephew said he had a representation to make, provided I would promise not to be displeased, of which I assured him he need be under no sort of apprehension. He went on to say, "I commanded in the fort of Manoorah the day your large ship battered it. I and my men

left our arms and accoutrements in the fort, when we made our escape, and you would do a great favour and kindness if you would have them restored to us." This I assured him I should have great pleasure in doing, on reaching Kurachee, but I may here anticipate a little by saying that I afterwards understood, to my regret and surprise, that the poor men's property had been sold, and that they were told when they applied for them, that no Sindees were henceforward to be allowed to carry any kind of weapon.

13. I availed myself of the opportunity thus accidentally afforded me to make the fullest inquiries about the fort, and the state of preparation in which it had been placed, and ascertained that there was not a single ball in it that would fit any one of the guns; that the whole supply of gunpowder amounted to six Kurachee seers (six pounds), which was kept in an earthen pot; that the garrison consisted of sixteen men, many of whom had only a sword; that when the summons came to deliver up the place, my informant explained, as well as he could, for there was no interpreter, that he would do so on receiving the Jemadar's orders, to obtain which he would send off a messenger instantly; and that so little did he and his men anticipate what followed, that when the firing began, they were all standing outside, looking at and admiring the "Wellesley."

14. Having sent the Admiral's original dispatches to you, and left the other letters I received on this subject at Hyderabad, I cannot refer to them, to see how far they agree with what was thus stated to me; but I may add, that the young Jam appeared to me to have no kind of wish to disguise or even qualify anything I asked him about, and all he affirmed was corroborated by others (who did not even know of his visit to me) after my arrival at Kurachee.

15. The Governor of Kurachee (Allah Rukhia Jemadar) waited on me the day after I reached that place. He came like a common menial, without arms or attendants, and on my afterwards inquiring the cause of this, I was informed that no one was allowed to bring even a knife into the camp, or to enter or quit it, after dark, though unarmed. I refrain from enlarging on the evil and cruelty of degrading men of any class by such a system. It seems to me, to be calculated to excite disgust and hatred, in not only those towards whom it is immediately practised, but in the breast of every chief and man in the province, and to be equally impolitic and dangerous. The Governor sent me word that he had never entertained the smallest idea of opposing the landing of our troops; that, after the firing from the "Wellesley" commenced, he received a peremptory order from the whole of the Ameers, not on any pretence to do so, but to supply every thing that might be required as far as procurable. He further said, that, had the summons gone up to the town (which lies four miles from the fort), he would have instantly obeyed it; that there was no one in the fort that had power to do so; that the English officers who landed, were told so, but refused to wait; that not one man had been added to the troops, either in the town or fort; that they did not altogether at the moment, muster beyond eighty men, who are always kept up for fiscal and police duties.

16. The reply I made to Sadig Shah will be found in the memorandum which formed the inclosure to my letter to Lieutenant Leckie, of the 8th of April, and I very respectfully beg to call the Governor-General's particular attention to it. Sadig Shah and Zynoolabdeen returned to Hyderabad with a Persian version of the above memorandum, and letters for all the Ameers, on the 9th of April; and the following day I embarked for Bombay, at which place I received on the 6th of May the one from Noor Mahomed Khan, of which I herewith transmit a translation and copy. It also contains the sentiments of Nusseer Mahomed and Meer Mahomed Khans, who both referred me to it in separate letters. Sobdar referred me to the Native Agent, a translation of whose letter I likewise transmit. To all those from the Ameers, I simply sent answers announcing my intended immediate departure from the Presidency for Mandavie, expressing my hope, that I should find the Treaties awaiting me there, and desiring them to believe what the Native Agent would communicate, to be authorized by me. To him I gave detailed instructions

as to what he was to urge on the consideration of the Ameers with regard to the Treaty, and the substance of his reply, which I forward, will show what took place.

17. I consider it to be unnecessary to swell this dispatch by further quoting my correspondence with their Highnesses and the Native Agent, subsequent to my return from Bombay, especially as it has been a mere repetition of what I have now the honor to hand up, and its purport will have come under his Lordship's notice in the native department of my diaries.

18. On the 25th ultimo I received a letter, dated June 19th, of which I annex a transcript, from Lieutenant Leckie, acquainting me that the Ameers had determined to dispatch a vakeel to the Governor-General, which step it will be observed that officer speaks of as a "sudden resolution," and ascribes it to news which had reached their Highnesses. The former is obviously an error, as the deputation of a vakeel was almost finally settled before I left the capital in March, and, as for the latter conjecture, I am of opinion that a much more reasonable and natural cause is to be discovered in the unflinching manner in which I have refused to hand up their Highnesses' appeal regarding Kurachee to the Governor-General, or at least to interest myself in its success, until I had the sealed copies of the Amended Treaty in my possession. The vakeels to whom Lieutenant Leckie's letter alludes, have actually set off, but I expect daily to hear of their recal; and I also anticipate the early acceptance of the Treaty, as I am apprised by the Native Agent, that Ismael Shah is furnished with blank papers bearing the Ameers' seals, and authority to fill them up, should he find that the question of Kurachee will not be considered by his Lordship till that is done. Indeed the Native Agent has several times reported, that their Highnesses had made up their minds to be guided by my recommendation, and put their seals to the Treaties, leaving all future points to the moderation and justice of his Lordship; but that their relations and chiefs dissuaded them from taking this step until they should obtain from me some kind of assurance, that their appeal would not be thrown aside. I by no means feel surprise or irritation, either at the Ameers' procrastination, or at this advice of the chiefs. It would be a miracle if they felt otherwise than suspicious of our designs and motives, and I humbly venture to think that the Governor-General will see much in this dispatch and its accompaniments, to support the most respectful, but at the same time, unqualified opinion, which I beg to record: "That the agreement by which Kurachee was ceded to us should be abrogated; and that a Supplemental Treaty to that of Fourteen Articles, should be entered into, providing for our having free ingress and egress to that port whenever we like, as well as for the payment by our merchants of a moderate rate of duties on goods, which they may bring there; and for our maintaining, both now and hereafter, such troops at that sea-port as the Governor-General of India shall see fit to direct."

19. I shall address you again shortly for the purpose of submitting my views and opinions as to the arrangements subsidiary to the above recommendation being approved and acted on by his Lordship. In the meantime, I should consider it very desirable that a release for Shikarpore should be obtained from His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in the name of the Ameers, in such form as the Governor-General may deem proper. It will have the effect of demonstrating to their Highnesses and their advisers, that we do not lose sight of their interests whilst attending to our own; and it cannot fail to be of use if it even adds a small iota to the confidence in us which it is so important to inculcate, and which this dispatch will show, has, in spite of all the anxious trouble I have taken on the subject, received many severe shocks.

20. I shall send a copy of this letter to the Secretary, for the information of the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

HENRY POTTINGER

No. 196.

Lieutenant Leckie to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Hyderabad, July* 15, 1839.

IN continuation of my letter of the 13th instant, I have the honor to inform you, that fair copies of the amended Treaty of Fourteen Articles, bearing the seals of each of their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, were dispatched to you yesterday at about 4 o'clock, P.M.

2. The unbending resolution of his Highness Meer Sobdar Khan has been the sole reason of the other Ameers agreeing to the terms of the Treaty. To their upbraiding and persuasions they have received for answer, that he is their relation but not their friend, and that he should act as he pleased, and that they might take their own course.

3. This determination of Meer Sobdar Khan has caused the greatest anguish to the other Ameers. Their being loath to allow him to gain precedence of them has alone compelled them to obey the command of the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
J. D. LECKIE.

No. 197.

Meer Noor Mahomed Khan to Colonel Henry Pottinger.—(Received at Bhooj, July 24, 1839.)

IT is a long time since I have heard from you; I pray that your silence may not have proceeded from sickness. You have written to me frequently to seal and send the Treaty of Fourteen Articles, and promised after that was done, to use your friendly exertions in obtaining my objects. I accordingly now have sealed the Treaty, and forward it to you through Moonshee Jeth Anund. I have the most perfect confidence in your long-tried friendship and kindness. I consider my territories as the gift of the King of England and the East India Company. You are well aware of the small revenues of Sinde, as well as my unavoidable expenses, and I therefore pray you to exert yourself in having Hyderabad rupees fixed. My own family expenses are defrayed out of the receipts of Kurachee, and should it not be released, how is the expense of the cantonment to be provided for? The cantonment is to be to the westward of the Indus, and I wish it fixed twenty or thirty coss from Hyderabad, which is the home of ourselves and families, and where the Resident's presence is quite enough. This will prevent any chance of disputes on trifling points. In real truth, the best spots for a cantonment are at Tatta or Sehwan. The 3,000 Sinde troops provided for by Treaty should not go beyond the frontier, or at farthest, the Bolan Pass; and the details of the possessions of this Government from the sea to Shikarpore, and from Subzulkote to the Desert, should be mentioned in writing by his Lordship the Governor-General.

I do not wish to trouble you, but it is imperative on me to do so on this occasion, and I depend on your friendship, and for the sake of our long intimacy, to obtain our objects from his Lordship the Governor-General; and to get us letters, under his Lordship's seal, giving us assurance on these points. In the mean time, pray send orders to Lieutenant Leckie to deliver the Treaties, with his Lordship's seal, that are in his keeping, to us.

Please God, there will never again be any discussions on these matters between the Governments, and this slave of the Almighty will be happy and contented, whilst the alliance will be constantly on the increase.

No. 198

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to Meer Ali Moorad.

July 23, 1839.

I HAVE received your letter, together with the riding camel, both of which were presented to me this morning by your confidential agent, Ali Hoossein. The professions of friendship made by you, and the explanations offered by Ali Hoossein, have afforded me pleasure. There are some points, however, on which it is necessary that you should write to me explicitly, particularly those relating to the Khan of Kelat and to the troops entertained by you. I have stated to Ali Hoossein the circumstances in your conduct which are of a doubtful character, and which render mere general professions of friendship insufficient, and it will afford me much pleasure to receive from you a satisfactory explanation of them. In the mean time, to satisfy you that I am far from being prejudiced against you, and that I am willing to bring to the notice of the Governor-General any application from you which may be of a nature likely to meet with his Lordship's favourable consideration, I accept the gift which you have sent me, and, in return, do myself the pleasure of presenting you with a pair of pistols, which will be delivered to you by your confidential agent, Ali Hoossein.

No. 199.

Meer Ali Moorad Khan to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

July 27, 1839.

YOUR letter, with a pair of English pistols, I have received from Sheik Ali Hoossein, and I am much pleased with your attention. The friendly tone of your letter, and the expressions of your esteem conveyed to me by the high in dignity, Sheik Ali Hoossein, has put me in good spirits, and I understand all he has related. I now send you the answer, and Sheik Ali Hoossein will also verbally explain to you, and it is my intention fully to detail everything to you, and you shall hear the truth from me, which I trust you will believe as such. The reason of my not having hitherto openly and declaredly joined the British Government is this:—From the time that the troops of the British Government arrived in this country, the Ryots of Meer Roostum and Meer Moobaruck, who have not failed in shewing their friendship to the British Government, have been cruelly oppressed by those troops. The Ryots, although they complained to the General Sahib and to other gentlemen, were not listened to. I was astonished at this, and I brought to my mind the fact of the Treaty made between the British Government and Meer Roostum to maintain friendly relations, and saw that it was not attended to, and that much oppression was practised towards the Ryots of those Ameers. I then thought that the same thing might happen to me. For this reason I have waited the course of events before entering into avowed relations, although, even before the Separate Treaty, I was in my heart most firmly fixed in my attachment to the British Government. I have all along done nothing at variance with the Treaty in question, Now, since you have visited Khyrpore, and have given assurances to Meer Roostum and myself, that our Ryots shall not in future be oppressed, and that you will render your friendly relations with us a matter of notoriety; in consequence of these assurances on your part, I am anxious to show openly the friendship which I have always in my heart entertained, and will fully explain myself to you.

The case of Mehrab Khan of Kelat is this:—I have not, for the reasons explained, hitherto entered into any friendly relations with the English Government, neither have I made any engagements, public or private, with Mehrab Khan. Now that you and I are publickly, as well

as privately, on friendly terms, and that you have given me assurances of safety, and that the wish of my heart to enter into the most friendly relations with the British Government has come to pass, how is it possible that I shall ever be on good terms with the enemies of the British Government. I have nothing to do with Mehrab Khan, nor will I ever have anything to say to him. With regard to the people of Cutch, and the Beloochees to the west of the Indus, who have been plundering, the fact is this: When Futteh Mahomed Khan crossed the Indus to punish those tribes and to drive sense into those wild animals, the greatest proportion of troops was supplied by me, and he was enabled to take the fort of Kherab from the Boodrees, and Kherab Khan their chief, and to punish and put to death other plunderers, solely by means of my troops. I sent my troops double in number to those of my own brothers, not for their sakes, but solely to do service to the British Government, and this was on account of my anxiety for friendship. Should the British Government wish to send troops against those tribes again, mine are entirely at your service, and I beg you will look upon them as your own.

Whatever interested people may have told you about my collecting troops, the true cause is this:—After the death of my father, my elder brothers, seeing me a child, forcibly took possession of my villages, and gave them to Meer Moobaruck. Being helpless, I made them over in writing. Being grown up, and possessed of understanding, I last year collected troops and demanded my possessions back from Meer Moobaruck. Meer Moobaruck, who had not justice on his side, did not meet me in the field, but got Meer Roostum to come forward to screen him. Meer Roostum persuaded me not to fight, and he made an agreement which he wrote in the Holy Koran, that he would recover and give me back my possessions from Meer Moobaruck. This agreement, a copy of which I send you, has not been acted up to, and it is now my earnest request of you, either to confer a favour on me by again restoring my possessions to me, or by sanctioning my taking them by force from the sons of Meer Moobaruck. This has been the cause of my collecting troops. When had I ever the power to oppose the forces of the British Government? Everything else my confidential agent will explain to you.

(Seal of Meer Ali Moorad.)

No. 200

Paper from Meer Ali Moorad Khan.

AFTER the usual quotation from the Koran, an agreement is hereby made between Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Ali Moorad Khan to this effect:—That the property as hereafter detailed, viz.: the village of Baberloo, with all the grounds on both sides the river, and the village of Shah Beila, and the village of Mahomed Bagh, and the village of Meklang, and all the land that belongs to them, and all the ground cultivated and uncultivated on that side (the west) of the river, that Meer Moobaruck Khan took from Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and for the recovery of which Meer Ali Moorad Khan has collected troops and artillery, with a determination to fight for the possession of them, and was on his way to execute this purpose*.

For the respectability and peace of our own family it is arranged that a truce for one or two months shall be made, so that, by the blessing of God, and for the sake of peace which ought to exist between brothers, I, the servant of God, after the time of the truce agreed to between us, make this arrangement, that I will recover, either by treaty or by force, the property of Ali Moorad, and will restore it to him, with every hunting place and with all that may be the proceeds of it, which I myself have taken: I will restore an equal quantity of ground yielding an equal value of pro-

* Sic in orig.

ceeds to Meer Ali Moorad Khan on this side of the river. By the blessing of God there shall be no failure in this agreement. I call Almighty God to witness.

2nd Jumaud-oosanee, 1254 Hejira.

(Seal of Meer Roostum.)

No. 201.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Bhooj, July* 25, 1839.

I HAVE the satisfaction to acquaint you, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that I yesterday evening received by express cossids from Hyderabad, four letters from their Highnesses the Ameers giving cover to copies of the Amended Treaty of fourteen Articles, duly sealed and ratified by those Chiefs respectively.

I shall do myself the honor to forward the original Treaties the moment I have time to translate the letters that accompanied them.

I have, &c.,

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 202.

The Native Agent at Hyderabad to the Resident in Sinde.

July 27, 1839.

YOUR letter, accompanied by those for the four Ameers and Ismael Shah, duly reached me on the 14th of this month. The Ameers had previously gone out to shoot, but had been driven back by the heavy rain, and I accordingly waited on their Highnesses on the 19th, and delivered your letters.

Noor Mahomed asked when your letter had reached me, and observed, that he had sealed and delivered to me the Treaty of Fourteen Articles even previous to its arrival, which I told him I had explained to you. His Highness said he was very happy the Treaty was sealed before your letter came, as it proved his dependence on the British Government, as well as his friendship. I repeated my former observations as to the facility with which all points in the Treaty might be adjusted, notwithstanding the fears of the Ameers to the contrary, and instanced how well his Highness the Rao of Cutch went on. With respect to the number of the British troops exceeding 5,000, I said that, if once confidence was established, it was of little moment how many men there were, and that it was as likely there would be 2,000 as 5,000. As to the question of Company's or Hyderabad rupees, I repeated, that that point was left to the decision of the Governor-General of India, and that the subject of Kurachee must be also left to his Lordship's favour and generosity. His Highness replied, that he trusted, through Colonel Pottinger, to get the cantonment fixed at a distance from Hyderabad; also that Hyderabad rupees would be fixed, and Kurachee restored. His Highness went on to say, that your insinuations about his intentionally delaying the acceptance of the Treaty to see the turn affairs might take, was not friendly. I pointed out the different facts that led to a conviction on your mind, that procrastination was being purposely practised, and again mentioned the news from Europe and Persia. Noor Mahomed Khan, after this, intimated his intention of recalling Ismael Shah, and expressed, in the strongest language, his entire reliance on your exertions to obtain his objects. I once more reiterated, that you had not the smallest objection

to a vakeel being sent to the Governor-General, but had, from the first, advised the Treaty of Fourteen Articles to be first accepted.

I next delivered your letter to Nusseer Mahomed Khan, who denied that he had any intercourse or friendship with the Persians or Barukzyes, and congratulated himself that he had sent off the Treaty of Fourteen Articles before your communication came to hand. His Highness went on to observe, that Mr. Ross Bell had stopped his letters, and probably sent them to the Governor-General, which would enable his Lordship to judge of them.

Meer Mahomed Khan entered into a long detail of his friendly feelings towards the British, and his contempt and indifference for the Persians and Barukzyes.

Meer Sobdar simply said, "I have dispatched the Treaty, with a letter containing my objects. I will hereafter give a reply to the letter you have now brought."

The next time I saw Noor Mahomed Khan, he desired me to beg you would write him a letter, saying, that Meer Meer Mahomed was to pay his own share of the expenses of the British troops. He also said, that the plan of dispatching Ismael Shah had been brought forward by Meer Meer Mahomed. My reply was, that each Ameer would have to pay his own share. Noor Mahomed Khan observed, that Meer Mahomed had declined to do so, and assigned his (Noor Mahomed's) note of hand as his pretence, but that a letter from you to the above effect would silence him.

On the 10th of this month (July 22), letters came from Ismael Shah and Sadig Shah for the Ameers. The former mentions, that Meer Roostum Khan had recommended his (Ismael Shah's) staying for some time at Khyrpore to receive news of the Persians and Barukzyes, and that he should be accompanied by a vakeel from Khyrpore. Ismael Shah also sent a copy of the intelligence which Roostum Khan had received from Kelat. He likewise reported that he had sent Sadig Shah to Mr. Bell, who had expressed a wish that he (Ismael Shah) should visit him, which he accordingly did. That gentleman inquired for what purpose I was deputed, and when I told him to increase the friendship, he asked what presents I had. I answered, by way of a joke, that we had given our presents in allowing a road through Sinde, and assisting the British army. Mr. Bell remarked, that the roads were very bad at this season, and said he would hereafter send me up the river in a steamer, but that if I was determined to set off, he would report my departure to the Governor-General.

Sadig Shah writes, that "when Mr. Bell visited Meer Roostum Khan, only Ismael Shah was allowed to be present."

Meer Roostum Khan told Sadig Shah that the two Hyderabad Ameers (Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans) had not consulted him in the first instance. Sadig Shah observed, that Meer Jan Khan had been sent to invite Roostum Khan to come to Sewan. Roostum Khan rejoined, that Jan Khan had nothing particular to say, else he would have attended to it. Sadig Shah goes on to state, "that intelligence of the victories of the Persians and Dost Mahomed is coming, and that it is wise to await the upshot, and afterwards send off vakeels."

"Meer Roostum Khan mentioned how much annoyed he was by the domineering way of Mr. Bell, and his apprehensions of the objects of the British Government subsequent to the capture of Candahar."

"Meer Ismael Shah is so unwell, that he can only move in a palkee. If it is thought fit, let Zynoolabdeen Shah come to take his place."

"The news from Kelat above alluded to was sent by Fyz Mahomed Babee to Meer Roostum. He also states that the Sirdars of Candahar had reached Kirman, and had sent petitions to the King of Persia and the Emperor of Russia; that Sirdar Ruhimdil Khan had joined Dost Mahomed Khan with a few troops; that the Persian army had returned as far as Ghorian; that Dost Mahomed Khan had advanced to Ghuznee with 50,000 soldiers, and that all the people of Khorassan were bent on fighting."

After reading the above news from Ismael Shah and Sadig Shah, the Ameers gave out that the former was a decrepit old man, and that they would send Durwesh Mahomed Boozdar in his room.

The Durbar Moonshee told me, that if you gave the Ameers assurances, they would recall Ismael Shah, and I have heard that he is ordered to halt at Khyrpore.

Meer Meer Mahomed Khan sent me a private message yesterday, that he objected from the first to the deputation of Ismael Shah, and now intended to recall him.

The newswriter at Khyrpore reports, that when Mr. Bell visited Meer Roostum Khan, he made inquiries as to the relationship between the latter and the Ameers of Hyderabad, to which the Meer replied they were all descended from the same grandfather, but that the Hyderabad Ameers were the paramount chiefs. Mr. Bell asked who was the heir apparent to Roostum Khan, which was told. Mr. Bell brought his own chairs, and on his return home, all his attendants (above one hundred in number) drew their swords and surrounded him. Roostum Khan was also forced to go with his children to pay his respects to Mr. Bell, who gave them presents, which the Meer also did to Mr. Bell.

No. 203.

The Resident in Sinde to Lieutenant-Colonel Spiller.

Sir, *Bhooj, July* 29, 1839.

I HAVE had the honor to receive your two letters of the 18th and 20th instant, on the subject of mine of the 8th.

2. From what Lieutenant Leckie has written to me, I am now in great hopes that the Ameers will do all that justice, and a proper example, will require, to punish the murderers of the late Captain Hand, and I entirely concur in your opinion, that those objects will be fully gained by the execution of the leader, and two or three of the gang, who shall be proved to have cut down the above-named officer, or fired at Lieutenant Clarke.

3. I shall therefore await your further report, and as soon as you can send me the names of the individuals, I shall address the Ameers, and call on them to issue the necessary orders for their condign punishment.

4. In the mean time, should the Governor of Kurachee offer to make the prisoners over to your custody, I am now disposed to think you should receive them, as it is obvious there is a great risk of their escaping whilst under charge of the soldiers of the Sinde Government.

5. I am not at all surprised at the warnings that the Governor of Kurachee gave Saheb Khan Choota, not to venture to that place, after the outcry that was made at the time (apparently without any ground) about his being the planner and instigator of the plot.

6. I still think the man Photah must have been of the party, but I shall suspend my judgment until I receive the result of your investigation into his case.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 204.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Bhooj, July* 30, 1839.

I HAVE now the honor to forward the four original Treaties, under the seals of the Ameers of Hyderabad, the receipt of which I intimated in my letter of the 25th instant, to your address.

2. I beg to submit a translation and copy of Noor Mahomed Khan's letter. Those from Nusseer Mahomed and Meer Mahomed Khans are, to a word, the same.

3. Sobdar Khan's letter is much shorter. He says, he sends the Treaty of Fourteen Articles, sealed agreeably to my desire; that he has the most perfect dependence on the favour and moderation of his Lordship the Governor-General, to whom he has but two requests to prefer: one, that his (Sobdar's) engagements with Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore may not be disturbed; the other, that the British cantonment may be fixed twenty or thirty coss from Hyderabad, on that (the western) side of the river.

4. For the sake of perspicuity, it may be convenient to divide the requests of the remaining three Ameers into five points, viz.:—

1st. That three lacs of Hyderabad rupees may be named instead of Company's.

2nd. That the claim of the British Government to the sea-port of Kurachee may be relinquished.

3rd. That the cantonment may be established at a distance from the capital (where the Resident will reside), as the surest means of preventing disputes; and Tatta or Sehwan are suggested as advantageous positions.

4th. That the 3,000 Sinde troops may never be called on to go beyond the Bolan Pass.

5th. That the names of the possessions of the Hyderabad Government may be mentioned in writing, under the seal of the Governor-General of India.

5. On each of these points, I very respectfully beg to offer a few brief remarks.

6. I have treated the nature of the money payment, in all my discussions and negotiations, as a question that was originally left to the decision of the Governor-General, and that therefore it may be considered to be finally settled by his Lordship having ordered "Company's rupees" to be inserted in the Amended Treaty; but it is, nevertheless, incumbent on me to state, that my inquiries from various quarters lead me to think that that payment will press heavily on the Ameers' personal means, especially such as have large and increasing families to provide for.

7. I have, in former dispatches, reported the most accurate information I could obtain regarding the revenue of all Sinde, and my belief is now, that I rather overrated them; for in the estimate which was furnished to me, Kurachee was included at two and a half lacs of rupees; whereas, we have the most conclusive evidence, that that place does not pay one lac per annum, exclusive of the uncertain item of opium, which may now be considered at an end.

8. When the country was apportioned out, subsequent to the death of Moorad Ali Khan, the sum of one lac and 40.000 rupees (about 32,000 rupees each share) was assigned to Noor Mahomed Khan, as the head of the State, for Durbar expenses. Deducting this sum, and the duties on opium, the Hyderabad family certainly do not realize above twenty-four lacs of Hyderabad rupees in the best years, and two-thirds of that is in kind. It must be also always borne in mind, that this is not the personal share of each Ameer, but includes all the sources of support of their respective numerous blood-relations, as well as of the Beloochee chiefs and heads of tribes who appertain to each of the sixteen annas, or portions, into which the country was divided when the four Ameers drew lots for choice; and for whose subsistence at least one moiety of the whole may be fairly allowed, thereby reducing the private income of each Ameer to a little more than three lacs and a half of rupees per annum, out of which they have to maintain their families, and all their establishments of boats, horses, hunting preserves, &c.

9. With respect to Kurachee, it is unnecessary for me to add a syllable to the sentiments I have already had the honor to submit in my dispatch of the 6th instant.

10. I entirely coincide in the request of all the Ameers, that the cantonment should not be near Hyderabad, and I may observe, that I

know of no site that could be selected in that neighbourhood. When the force was there in February last, under Sir John Keane, the plain on which it was encamped looked very inviting, and I heard many officers speak of it as a most desirable position; but it is at present, I understand, completely under water, from the rise of the river, and my own personal observation, as well as all my inquiries, and all I have heard from others, have only served to confirm my original opinion, that the best site for a cantonment in Lower Sinde, whether viewed as to its salubrity, or with reference to our political and military ascendancy, is the present camp at Tatta.

11. I have before stated, that I consider the Article of the Treaty, regarding the employment of 3,000 Sinde troops, to be a mere dead letter. Time and our example may change the habits of the Beloochee soldiery; but my experience of them tells me that they are at present an insufferable and licentious rabble, who could be turned to no earthly purpose, either in Sinde or elsewhere.

12. The fifth point is an absurdity dictated by the jealous suspicion of the Ameers. Their Highnesses have brought it forward before frequently, and at first tried to support their application by adducing the Treaty between Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk and Maharajah Runjeet Sing, as having all the places detailed in it; but I then pointed out, that that was only done where cessions were defined, and that no mention is made of the territories which remained to the Shah; that, in the same manner, everything the Ameers can desire is included in the term "actual possessions."

13. The Ameers' letters were accompanied by a very long one from the Native Agent, reporting, in great length, his verbal communications with the Ameers, and his conviction that, had not Sobdar Khan sealed the Treaty, the other three Chiefs would have procrastinated some time longer about doing so. In this opinion it will be seen Lieutenant Leckie agrees, from the accompanying copy of his letter to me of the 15th instant, and it is probably quite correct; but it is to be recollected, that Sobdar had, comparatively speaking, little at stake. It is, however, far from my wish to detract from his conduct, which has been, throughout, a rare example of consistency and honor in Sinde; and it is to be recorded to his still greater credit, that he told the Native Agent, that the only compunction he felt in putting his seal to the Treaty, was the knowledge that his relations and partisans would say he did so to injure them; that he knew he should lose nothing by the step; and that he ventured to trust that, through my representations, the Governor-General would give an indulgent ear to the appeal of his brothers (though he could hardly call them his friends), not only regarding Kurachee, but the description of the rupees to be paid in part of the expense of the troops.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 205.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, July* 31, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General, the accompanying copies and translations of documents, viz:—

No. 1. Letter from his Highness Meer Ali Moorad to Ross Bell, Esq., without date.

No. 2. Letter from Ross Bell, Esq. to his Highness Ali Moorad, dated 23rd of July, 1839.

No. 3. Letter from his Highness Ali Moorad to Ross Bell, Esq., dated 27th of July, 1838.

No. 4. Inclosure to No. 3, being copy of an engagement entered into between their Highnesses Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Ali Moorad.

2. I do not find Ali Moorad even alluded to in any of the correspondence which formerly passed between Government and its Political Agents relative to treaties with the Sinde Ameers. He seems, indeed, to have been hitherto overlooked, and, as far as I can judge, to have kept purposely in the back-ground; that he was hostilely disposed towards us from the commencement there cannot be a doubt, and his reasons for now coming forward I believe to be, 1st:—That, in consequence of the Hyderabad Ameers having acceded to the Treaty of Fourteen Articles, he now feels himself to be alone, and 2ndly:—That he finds I am acquainted with what has been passing between him and Mehrab Khan.

3. Having been instructed by the Governor-General that it is his policy to keep matters quiet in this country, I have, as will be seen by referring to my letter to Ali Moorad of the 23rd instant, encouraged that chief to expect a favourable reception by his Lordship of any satisfactory apology he might make regarding his past conduct. Under existing circumstances I think it will be expedient to accept the explanation contained in his letter of the 27th instant, but this of course is a point which can be decided by his Lordship alone. In the mean time I shall inform Meer Ali Moorad that the correspondence has been laid before the Governor-General, and trust that his Lordship will approve of my keeping up a friendly intercourse with him, until I receive final instructions as to the course which is to be pursued.

4. Ali Moorad is the only one among the Ameers who has any character for courage. He is a man of hasty and violent temper, and has a strong body of Affghan mercenaries in his service; if, therefore, his explanation be rejected, it will be necessary to take decisive measures against him.

5. Should his Lordship decide in favour of a treaty being made with Meer Ali Moorad, it would be advisable, I think, to postpone a final adjustment of the terms until the cold weather. The question regarding the amount of subsidy to be paid by him may be more satisfactorily arranged then than at present. In the interim, after receiving authority from his Lordship to arrange the matter, I could offer to mediate between the brothers,—a proposal warranted by Article V of the Treaty with Meer Roostum.

6. I take this opportunity of requesting that you will inform me whether a ratified copy of the Treaty with Meer Roostum was forwarded to Government by Sir A. Burnes.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

No. 206.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Camp, Sukkur, August* 10, 1839.

WITH reference to my letter to your address, dated the 28th ultimo, I have the honor to inclose a copy of a letter which I received this morning from Meer Roostum Khan.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

No. 207.

Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

YOUR friendly letter, conveying the welcome tidings of your good health, reached me at an auspicious moment, and filled me with much joy.

You state in that letter that, lest I might not rest assured on your verbal promise when we meet, that you would notify to the Governor-General the injury occasioned at Lahoree, Bukkur, and Sukkur, by the march of the British troops, and recommend the adoption of proper measures for its prevention in future; you now assure me that the recurrence of such injury will be guarded against. You further state, that you were not aware of the injury occasioned to the burial-grounds of the Syuds, &c.; that the British, like the Mahomedans, respect the ashes of the dead, and that you would have taken immediate and proper steps to prevent the injury had it been known to you. You also state, that the news which I received, tending to affect our friendship, was unfounded; that, had you previously been acquainted with this, you would have taken steps to remove the ill impression; that the guns which had been stationed at certain places were intended for review, and not for the purposes of war; that you would ever give heed to the friendship existing between the British Government and myself, and study to maintain the friendly feelings by correspondence.

My friend, you are well aware that, by the blessing of God, since my friendship with the British Government has been established by treaty, I have never deviated from it, even a hair's breadth, so that, prior to your visiting this quarter, the British, in their march through the places Lahoree, Bukkur, and Sukkur, at different times, had dug up the burial-grounds, and committed other unheard of and unparalelled mischief. Notwithstanding it was offensive and disagreable, I did not, on account of my friendship with the British Government, utter a complaint. I look upon every British authority as representative of the Governor-General. I feel that, when the fact of the above unlawful proceedings of the British will be proved, the sincerity of my friendship will be known to the British Government. God be praised, that, as at present you have come to this country, whatever I have communicated to you has been considered by you as correct after inquiries.

As it is stated by you, that the guns had been stationed at certain places only for review, it matters nothing, for I am stedfast in my friendship with the British, and do not attend to the talk of malicious people; I hope you will not also listen to it.

No. 208.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, August* 12, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, submitting copies of your correspondence with Ali Moorad, a chief of the family of Khyrpore, whose claims to be treated as possessed of substantial and independent power appear hitherto to have been overlooked, a circumstance which may probably be attributable to his having been a party dispossessed of his hereditary lands at the time when our connexion with the Chief of Khyrpore commenced.

2. The Governor-General, I am directed to state, approves of the tenor of your communication to Meer Ali Moorad; and, according to the suggestion contained in the 5th paragraph of your letter, would desire to postpone any final adjustment of terms with that person till the cold weather. In the mean time, it will be sufficient that you maintain a friendly correspondence with him, whereby he may be deterred from any proceedings likely to disturb the tranquillity of the country.

3. His Lordship will be happy to receive from you a statement of the value and extent of the different shares into which the principality of Khyrpore appears to be partitioned, and the footing, with respect to power and dependence, on which the members of the family stand to one another:

a map of their possessions, compiled from the best information which you can obtain, is at the same time a desideratum which it is hoped you will be able to supply.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 209.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Bhooj, August* 13, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India, a translation and copy of a letter from the Native Agent at Hyderabad.

2. The same messengers brought me letters from all the Ameers, except Sobdar Khan; but as there is nothing new in them, and they are merely a repetition of what the Native Agent reports, as to the verbal intercourse he had had with their Highnesses, I consider it useless to trouble his Lordship with translations.

3. The three Ameers make a show in their letters of being offended at my insinuation that they were delaying to seal the Treaty of Fourteen Articles for the purpose of watching the course of events, but I have directed the Native Agent to point out to them the strong reasons they gave for such a suspicion, and to tell them I am happy they listened to my former advice.

4. In a subsequent letter from Noor Mahomed Khan, which came to hand on the 11th instant, he informs that he has recalled Ismael Shah, and trusts to me to bring his and the other Ameers' appeal properly before the Governor-General of India.

5. The Native Agent explains in a letter to my Moonshee, that Noor Mahomed Khan has given Meer Meer Mahomed a solemn promise, written in a Koran, to pay his portion of the amount fixed for the troops. This is what the former chief alluded to at his second interview with Jeth Anund.

6. I shall send copies of this letter and its inclosure to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde, as that gentleman will be able to judge of the truth, or otherwise, of the reports from Khyrpore.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 210.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, August* 31, 1839.

IN obedience to the instructions contained in your letter of the 5th instant, I lost no time in addressing his Highness Meer Roostum, and communicating to him the instructions of the Governor-General.

2. I received a reply to my letter to Meer Roostum's address, dated the 25th instant, and was surprised, yesterday, at receiving a message from his Highness, stating, that he had come to Roree for the purpose of having an interview with me, and of discussing the subject to which my letter relates.

3. I visited Meer Roostum, this morning, and explained to him, fully the scope of the instructions conveyed to me, and of the views entertained by his Lordship. His Highness objected to the attendance of an agent, on his part, at a court-martial; and concluded by begging, that I would

submit to the Governor-General his request, that the first favourable opportunity might be taken of making a different arrangement for the investigation of cases in which his subjects should be the plaintiffs.

4. I informed him, once more, as I had previously done, by letter, that the arrangement was regarded by his Lordship as merely a temporary one, pending the continuance of our operations in the field, and that the question would be considered, as one open for reconsideration hereafter. With this assurance he expressed himself satisfied.

I have, &c.,

ROSS BELL.

No. 211.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to Meer Roostum Khan.

August 17, 1839.

BE it known to your exalted mind, that with regard to the settlement of cases of oppression by soldiers, and camp-followers, which subject was referred to the high consideration of the Governor-General of Hindoostan, a reply has, this day, been received, being a letter from the most noble the Governor-General aforesaid. By the contents of that letter, your Highness is informed, that a court of justice, or English council, is appointed within the limits of the camp. The object of this court is, that if any oppression is, or shall be exercised by any individual belonging to the army, on any of your Highness' subjects, and if violence of any sort be practised on such subject of your Highness, then the injured person shall have it in his power to make complaint of the injury received, before the court of justice aforesaid; and the chiefs of the surrounding country are at liberty to send any Vakeel, on their part, on the day the court assembles, to be present at the said court. These Vakeels will see, with their own eyes, the investigation and mode of conducting the trials; and your Highness is informed, that an English officer will be present in the said court as interpreter, who will translate *viva voce* into Hindoo or Persian the English proceedings, for the information of Vakeels or persons deputed to attend. His Excellency the Governor-General is further pleased to call the attention of your Highness to the fact, that this court is strictly just, and will award impartial justice to the subjects of your Highness; the officers who constitute the said Court are such as will discriminate and administer justice impartially. Instructions have been addressed by the Governor-General to the officer commanding the troops, and he will take measures for carrying them into effect, by assembling the said court. Your Highness having thus been made acquainted with the contents of the letter which has been referred to, it remains with you to instruct your agent to attend at the place where the Court assembles, in order that he may observe its proceedings. Your Highness may be assured, that justice will be obtained in this court by every individual of your Highness' subjects, who may suffer from any person attached to the troops now here. May the days of your prosperity and happiness be prolonged.

ROSS BELL.

No. 212.

Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, to the Political Agent.

IT is represented to your friendly consideration, that all is well here, and we continually desire your welfare and happiness.

Your letter of friendly import arrived in a fortunate hour, and gratified me by the good intelligence of your health and well-doing.

With regard to the establishment of an English court of justice, in

the confines of the camp of the army stationed at Sukkur, for the investigation and settlement of cases of oppression, by persons belonging to the camp, and the deputing of a confidential person from this court on the day of assembling the adawlut, for observation of the manner of settlement of cases as may occur on the subject, all that you have written has been explained to me word by word. My friend, it is well known to you, that when those gentlemen of illustrious rank, Messrs. Burnes and Macnaghten, and the other English gentlemen arrived in this country, they made protestations of sincere friendship, and amity, on the part of the Governor-General of Hindoostan; and, in accordance with their wishes and entreaties, a cordiality and amity of feeling having taken place, they told me that, if I accepted the friendship of the British Government, it would be a source of gain and advantage to both parties, and that ease and tranquillity would ensue. They said, moreover, at the time aforesaid, at the writing and conclusion of the Treaty, that every one who had entered into alliance with the English Government, and fulfilled the engagements entered into, all such allies had found the English Government also constant and unchanging in their friendship, which was always preserved inviolate. They added, that in this country of Sinde, the introduction of the authority of courts of justice, and the decision thereof, in cases in which the subjects of this principality are concerned, should in no wise take place. Therefore, considering the aforesaid officers to be ambassadors possessed of full powers, I have not deviated one hair's point from the professions and engagements of amity I then entered into, acting in entire conformity with their wishes; and to this day, in spite of injustice and oppression displayed in a variety of instances, where annoyance has been intentionally given, and is still continued to be given to me, I have continued to maintain unshaken fidelity, and I have in all things studied the wishes of such officers as, since the departure of Messrs. Burnes and Macnaghten, have, from time to time, arrived in the country. In accordance with the saying, that "all that a friend does is good," I have preserved silence with regard to what has occurred, and have consented to the injustice which has, in this manner, been shewn to me; and for the future too, if it please God, I will not, as far as my power goes, place my foot outside the circle of friendship, because the letters and actions of the illustrious Governor-General of India, are engraved on my heart as on a tablet of stone, and every letter of them being, as they are, equivalent to the strongest engagements, is always before my eyes, and thus, relying upon these letters, I looked forward to a happy result, and the accomplishment of my fullest wishes, and in dependence on the sincerity of my own intentions, and the reality of the friendship I have shewn, as evinced in my entrusting the fortress of Bukkur, for the security and protection of the stores of the army, and in other instances of support. In dependence upon this, I own that I have the fullest confidence, that the Governor-General, having by other means become acquainted with the occurrences I have alluded to, and being convinced of the sincerity of friendship I have displayed, will cherish and support me in return.

There is no necessity for my dispatching a deputy or confidential person to the court of justice to be assembled in the English army. I will myself arrange whatever is required for the administering of justice to my subjects, in such manner as I myself may think desirable.

The settlement, however, of injuries, by which I have incurred loss to the amount of thousands of rupees, such as the abrogation of farming contracts, the destruction of gardens in the district of Roree, by sending camels to graze there, and the oppression exercised by persons belonging to the army, is a very different consideration. It would not be fitting to enter into a discussion of this subject in a friendly letter, and the circumstances are fully known and evident to you; but it is incumbent upon you to redress these grievances, and the power and decision lies with you. You should recollect the avowal you made at the time of meeting the illustrious in rank and benevolent Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who is to me like a brother, and is my adviser and minister, with

regard to the settlement of cases of oppression by the army with my subjects. If you recollect the sentiments you then avowed, it is well; but if not, then, if it please God, I will dispatch an envoy to the Governor-General, who will accord to me his favour, and accomplish my wishes in the fullest manner. Moolla Jan Mohamed, of illustrious rank, is dispatched from this place, and whatever he may state is confirmed by me. May the days of friendship be continued.

No. 213.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

August 25, 1839.

I REGRET much to perceive that your Highness has mistaken the tenor of my letter to your address dated the 17th instant. In it I endeavoured to explain that the military court alluded to is not to be assembled for the purpose of trying your subjects, but of investigating cases in which sepoys and camp-followers, servants of the British Government, may be defendants. I am fully aware of the sincerity of your friendship, and can assure you that the anxiety you have all along displayed to meet the wishes of the British Government has been acknowledged and appreciated from the commencement. Do not, my friend, permit any doubt on this point to enter into your heart with regard to the arrangement which I agreed to, when at Khyrpore, namely, that cases beyond the precincts of the camp, which might arise between your subjects on one part and soldiers or camp-followers in the service of the British Government on the other, should be decided by me. I formerly wrote to you that the question had been referred to the Governor-General of India. His Lordship's orders were issued to me after mature reflection. They are that, for the present, and while our military posts are scattered through the country on a merely temporary footing, the arrangement decided on and communicated in my last letter to you is the only one which can conveniently be followed.

It is by no means intended that a British court of justice shall be established in your country, or that your subjects shall be made amenable to our laws. You must be aware that it is not the case, because I have invariably transferred to you, for trial and punishment, all delinquents, and some of them are charged with heavy crimes, who fell into my hands. The question then stands thus:—When complaints are made by your subjects against those of the British Government, by what authority are they to be investigated? It has been shewn that when charges are brought against your subjects they are investigated by you or by such delegates as you may appoint. It is, therefore, evident that charges brought against British subjects must be investigated in such a manner as the Governor-General shall determine. You cannot deny the justice and propriety of this conclusion. The question, therefore, of form, that is to say, of how a court for the trial of such cases shall be constituted, rests solely with the Governor-General. That question has been considered by the Governor-General with reference to the existing state of affairs, and I feel satisfied that when you consider the matter attentively, and have fully understood all that I have written, you will acknowledge the wisdom of his Lordship's decision.

I have had a long conversation with Moolla Jan Mahomed on the subject of your letter, and after hearing all that was said by him have explained to him fully the scope of the Governor-General's instructions and considerations which have induced his Lordship to modify the arrangement which was formerly agreed to by me.

ROSS BELL.

No. 214.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Resident in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, September* 2, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches of April 18, July 6, 25, and 30.

2. It has afforded much gratification to the Governor-General to receive, at length, ratified copies of the Treaties of Fourteen Articles from the Ameers of Hyderabad; for, though the delay which has been manifested by them in agreeing to the terms of those Treaties, and the circumstances of suspicion which have attached to the conduct of some of the Ameers, in the interval between their learning the determination of the Government and their putting their seals to those papers, might well have created suspicions of the sincerity of their declarations to you before you quitted Hyderabad; or, if they were then sincere, that they were afterwards watching the course of events whereby to regulate their conduct towards the British Government; his Lordship is willing to make allowances for their apparent indecision with regard to accepting the terms offered to them, and is satisfied to receive their tardy acquiescence in the conditions of the Treaties.

3. But three of the Ameers, though induced by the example of the fourth, Meer Sobdar, to affix their seals in ratification of these documents, have, in transmitting them to you, offered objections to certain of the terms and conditions, and begged for their reconsideration.

4. These objections are recapitulated in the 4th paragraph of your letter of the 30th ultimo, and I am directed to communicate the following observations on those points of objection, seriatim.

5. The first is, "that three lacs of Hyderabad rupees may be named instead of Company's." The plea assigned for the request, is the poverty of the Ameers; and, in explanation of their straightened circumstances, you state in the 8th paragraph of the same letter, that the Ameers do not realize more than twenty-four lacs of Hyderabad rupees per annum in the best years; and that the private income of each Ameer amounts to little more than three and a-half lacs of rupees per annum. Now, calculating the amount of contribution to the maintenance of a protective military force of British troops in proportion to the gross revenue, and not to the private income of the chiefs, for it is on the first that the aggregate burden will of course ultimately fall, and, taking the sum of Company's rupees three lacs to be about equivalent to four lacs of Hyderabad rupees, the contribution amounts to no more than one-sixth of the revenues of the country; or, falling as it will do on the shares of three only out of the four Ameers who partition the country and its revenues among them, it amounts to two-ninths of their incomes, a proportion which cannot be deemed excessive, when the advantage, which the Ameers permanently secure by the Treaties, is taken into consideration, and certainly not greater than that which is contributed by many of the Princes of India out of their revenues for the same kind of military protection; and it must further be borne in mind, that, on almost all occasions of subsidizing the States of India, we have insisted on the whole expense of the military force employed, being paid by the subsidized State, whereas you are aware that the sum of three lacs of Company's rupees demanded from the Hyderabad Ameers, will fall very short of the expense incurred in maintaining the reserved force in Sinde.

6. The Governor-General is not, therefore, under the circumstances of the case, disposed to think that any remission is justly called for in the sum already fixed as the annual contribution to be paid by the Ameers; and he would have you declare plainly that the proposition is inadmissible.

7. You are aware that, on a former occasion, the Ameers themselves proffered, in lieu of protection and advantages, far less complete and obvious than those which they gain under the present Treaties, the cession of Shikarpore, the value of which is not supposed to be less than the

amount of the money payment now required from them. This circumstance might be brought to their notice, if they persist in urging you on this point; and, though the British Government is far from being desirous for territorial occupation or aggrandizement, a proposition from the Ameers to exchange the money-payment for such a cession of territory might probably seem deserving of submission for the orders of the authorities in England.

8. The second point is, "that the claim of the British Government to the sea-port of Kurachee may be relinquished." The grounds on which this point is urged are, a denial of hostile demonstrations before the bombardment of the fort, which formed a principal argument for treating Kurachee as a British conquest, and the embarrassment which the Ameers will feel from the loss of the revenue derived from the port.

9. The Governor-General will not call in question the correctness of the reports from the naval Commander-in-chief, from which it appears that no attention was paid to his pacific overtures, before he felt himself compelled to resort to force, nor will his Lordship admit the denial by the Ameers, or their subjects, of a hostile spirit having swayed their conduct at Kurachee, as elsewhere. The conduct evinced to the British Mission at Hyderabad, the preparations for resistance at that capital, the intrigues in which they were engaged with our enemies, and their procrastination in submitting to the terms of your Treaty, are all convincing proofs of the inimical spirit with which they were then animated; and the forbearance with which they have been treated by the British Government, notwithstanding these proofs of the faithless and unfriendly spirit of the Ameers, ought not to be now an argument for further concession, unless they could have shewn that their dispositions had essentially changed, and that they had become loyal and frank in their adherence to the interests of the paramount power; but their conduct, even to the present time, has been suspicious and equivocal, and it has only been with extreme reluctance, and after much delay, that they have consented to affix their signatures to the very lenient terms which were required from them.

10. It cannot likewise be overlooked, when considering this part of the question, that their evasive conduct before the advance of Sir John Keane on Hyderabad, caused a detention, in Lower Sinde, of the British army, for some weeks, thereby interfering with the prosecution of the expedition into Affghanistan, and causing an increase of expense that cannot be estimated at less than twenty lacs of rupees, for the whole of which they might have been held fairly accountable, if the Governor-General had been disposed to visit their hostility with the rigour which it deserved.

11. In the 4th paragraph of my letter to your address, of the 21st of February last, you were apprised that the Governor-General would not now admit any proposition for the abandonment of Kurachee as a military post; which may have escaped your recollection, when, in the 18th paragraph of your dispatch of the 6th ultimo, you beg to record an opinion, "that the agreement by which Kurachee was ceded to us, should be abrogated." As stated in the paragraph of my letter of the 21st of February, quoted above, it is "understood that the civil government of the place was left, after military occupation was obtained of it, in the hands of the Sinde local officers." If this is not the case, it would have been well that you should have brought the subject to the Governor-General's notice, because it was under this understanding that his Lordship's resolution had been formed. And if it is the case, and the civil government is still in the hands of officers of the Ameers, his Lordship does not fully understand the weight of the objection urged, in the second place, against our military occupation, on account of the loss of revenue which it occasions to the Ameers; for, if the civil government is in the hands of their officers, it is presumed that no interference in the collection of the revenues is experienced from the presence of a British military force.

12. On neither supposition does the Governor-General perceive a necessity, at the present time, for abrogating the agreement of the 3rd of February, 1839, and entering into a Supplemental Treaty on the subject of Kurachee.

13. It is not in contemplation to maintain permanently a large military force at that place, but a small detachment will always remain there; and if military occupation is still held of the town, that will be relinquished, on withdrawing the greater portion of the force. The Governor-General has no desire to interfere with the arrangement by which the civil government was left in the hands of the Ameers; and, in their revenue collection, he would only so far interfere, as to call for a revision, if it should be found necessary, of their port dues and customs, with a view to their being fixed at a fair and moderate rate, and to the publication of a tariff of them for general information. No duties will, of course, be levied on stores, or other public property of the British Government; and British vessels of war will meet with no hindrance when visiting the port, and will have every facility afforded to them in procuring necessary supplies. In these matters no interference was authorized by the agreement of the 3rd of February: trading-vessels were to enter the port "as usual," and, indeed, unless the stipulations of the agreement have been disregarded, there cannot apparently be any loss or inconvenience felt under it, beyond the occupation of the town by a military force, if it is, in fact, so occupied; and his Lordship contemplates the removal of this cause of dissatisfaction at an early period.

14. But, as you will have seen, in a letter from me of this date, the question of the number and the stations of any force which may, after the return of the Army of the Indus, be left in Sinde, is still under the consideration of his Lordship, and under discussion with you, and with other political aud military authorities; and his Lordship hopes that an arrangement will ultimately be made more satisfactory to the Ameers than has been anticipated by them, and yet sufficiently providing for the objects of security, and of commerce, which are alone in the view of the British Government.

15. If, therefore, the Governor-General should ultimately determine upon acting on the views which have been above explained, the usual customs will continue to be levied, subject only to such alteration as, on consultation between you and the Ameers, may hereafter be agreed upon; and a tariff will be prepared for the information of British merchants. Thus, as it appears to the Governor-General, is everything conceded which the Ameers have sought, and the cession of which you have advocated; and the British Government will retain that position at the principal port of Sinde, which is indispensable, without infringing any of those rights of independence which are secured to the Ameers by the revised Treaty.

16. On the point "that the cantonment may be established at a distance from the capital (where the Resident will reside), as the surest means of preventing disputes," no difficulty presents itself in assuring the Ameers that their wishes will be complied with.

17. It is in the contemplation of the Governor-General, subject to the advice which he has already noted, to station the reserve force in Upper Sinde, at Sukkur, or such other place as shall on due inquiry be found most convenient, leaving, in tranquil and ordinary times, but inconsiderable detachments, to be periodically relieved, at Tatta and Kurachee. So situated, the main force will be available for the occupation of any posts that it may be necessary to establish in Gundava, and will serve generally to secure the subjection of the plundering tribes who infest that quarter, and subsequently to preserve the tranquillity of the country. With the advantage of the downward current, the force, or any portion of it, may be moved with great expedition to Hyderabad, or any part of Lower Sinde, where its services may be required, and, in case of necessity, it may be reinforced with little delay from Ferozepore or Loodiana. Such are the military and political advantages which occur to his Lordship as likely to attend the removal of the reserve force from Lower to Upper Sinde; and as it is desirable, that, if it is adopted, no time should be lost, but that the force should be made available for service early in the cold weather, you have been requested to inform me with as little delay as possible, whether you see any objection to this plan, which may have escaped the notice of the Governor-General: The Commander-in-chief

will be consulted on this subject, and the political authorities in Upper Sinde and Shawl will be referred to for the details of the arrangement, if it is to be carried into effect. A separate letter has been addressed to you on this point.

18. The fourth point is, "that the 3,000 Sinde troops may never be called upon to go beyond the Bolan Pass." His Lordship would not enter upon new stipulations in regard to petty objections of this description, but the Ameers will probably be satisfied with a strong assurance from you, that there is not the slightest probability of their contingent being called upon at any time to serve beyond the frontiers of Sinde, or, at the utmost, beyond the plains of Cutch Gundava. It is indeed beyond the range of probability, that the assistance of such troops will be ever at all required, and his Lordship will rely upon you for setting at rest any uneasiness which may be entertained on this head.

19. The fifth point, namely, "that the names of the possessions of the Hyderabad Government may be mentioned in writing, under the seal of the Governor-General of India," is, as you say, inadmissible. The Ameers are, by the Treaty, severally guaranteed in the enjoyment of their present possessions. The British Government has no information of the details of these possessions, or of their present distribution. We no longer recognize the Ameers collectively as the Government of Hyderabad, but have made ourselves the umpire of any dispute that may arise among them. It is, therefore, impossible, even if it were expedient, that we should now attempt to particularize their several possessions, and it is probable that they could not do it themselves without raising some disputes to prove the futility of the attempt.

20. Meer Sobdar has been a party to none of these references. He has merely made an application to you, that his connexion with Meerpore may not be affected by the Treaty. On this point you have, of course, given him full assurance that the terms of the Treaty are not meant to interdict the ordinary intercourse among friends and relations.

21. The Chief of Meerpore in Lower Sinde appears to have hitherto kept aloof from treating with the British Residency, but it may be expected that, when matters are finally settled at Hyderabad, he will be desirous to assure himself of the protection of the British. The Governor-General is not sufficiently informed regarding the circumstances of Meer Shere Mahomed and his jagheer, and requests that you will report on the subject with reference to the nature of the engagements which at some future period it may be desirable to enter into with him, and the amount which he may be expected to be able to contribute towards the military defence of the country.

22. In reply to the 19th paragraph of your letter of the 6th ultimo, I am directed to inform yon, that a reference will be made to the Envoy and Minister at the Court of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk on the subject of the stipulations which remain to be entered into regarding His Majesty's claims against the Ameers of Sinde, and the release required by the Ameers for Shikarpore. It will, however, have occurred to you, that the Ameers of Hyderabad have not yet paid more than the first instalment of the sum which they are to pay for their release from the demands of the Affghan monarch, and, on your return to Hyderabad, his Lordship hopes that you will take measures for the early realization of the balance; and, by the time that it is realized, and the Ameers who are parties to the Treaty with the British Government will have become entitled to claim a release from His Majesty's demands against them personally, and on the territories held by them, the arrangements which remain to be made with the Shah will probably have been coucluded.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 215

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Envoy and Minister with Shah Shooja.

(Extract.) *Simla, September* 12, 1839.

9. In the Eighth Article of your Treaty (with Shah Shooja), it is assumed, that the Ameers of Sinde have "consented to pay down twenty-eight lacs of rupees;" but this is not the fact. The three Ameers of Hyderabad have agreed to pay twenty-one lacs of rupees, and there remain the other independent Ameers, with whom no engagements have yet been concluded; but from whom, payments will be demanded according to their means. Till the amount of the entire payment from all the Ameers of Sinde shall be known, an Article, fixing the sum, in lieu of which, Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk relinquishes his demand for tribute or territory, cannot well be inserted in this Treaty.

The Shah's conditional relinquishment of his claim in the Fourth and Sixteenth Articles of the Tripartite Treaty will remain in force, till the sum to be paid by the Ameeers is fixed, when His Majesty's release of the Ameers, from all his claims upon them, may be effected by a simple deed, to be procured from His Majesty, through the British Minister at his Court.

10. The above explanation, of the necessity for omitting the Eighth Article of your Treaty will, no doubt, prove satisfactory to the King, to whom the retention of the Article cannot be an object of importance.

No. 216.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, September* 13, 1839.

WITH reference to your letter, dated the 12th ultimo, I have the honor to state, for the information of the Governor-General, that, subsequent to the dispatch of my letter dated the 31st of July last, it was intimated to me by Meer Ali Moorad that a separate treaty had been entered into with him by Sir A. Burnes. I requested him to furnish me with a copy of it, which he accordingly did. A transcript of the document accompanies this letter; it bears date the 29th of December, 1838, and appears to have been ratified by the Governor-General on the 13th of January, 1839.

As the records of this office afford no trace of such an engagement having been entered into, or of its having been even contemplated, I shall feel obliged by your acquainting me whether a separate Treaty with Meer Ali Moorad was actually ratified by the Governor-General, and if so, whether the inclosed is a correct transcript of it.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

No. 217.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, September* 16, 1839.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, forwarding correspondence with Meer Roostum regarding settlement of disputes.

2. In reply I am directed to state, that the Governor-General approves of the tenour of your communication to Meer Roostum. He presumes

that your correspondence with this chieftain upon the question is now closed. It may, nevertheless, be satisfactory to you to know that, in the event of the permanent establishment of the British cantonment in Upper Sinde, his Lordship will be glad to take into consideration the manner in which disputes arising between the inhabitants of the cantonment and the subjects of the Ameers, may best be settled, and in the mean time his Lordship would continue in force the system of referring such cases to military courts at Sukkur.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 218.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

Simla, September 19, 1839.

THE documents which I have the honor to submit to you herewith, are correspondence on the state of affairs in Sinde, containing the long-delayed ratification of the revised Treaty of Fourteen Articles, which you will bear in mind was offered to the Ameers in the month of March last.

2. I have to invite your particular attention to the dispatch to Colonel Pottinger of the 2nd instant, which contains in full my views on the objections raised by the Ameers, after ratification of the above Treaty, to some of the very lenient terms of its stipulations.

3. You will not fail to remark that I have met the complaint of the Ameers against the amount of tribute required of them for protection, by an allusion to the greater sacrifice which they themselves voluntarily offered for a less advantage at no distant period, and that I have answered their appeal against dispossession of the Port of Kurachee, by pointing out that no dispossession has either occurred, or is in contemplation.

4. The question concerning the position of the subsidiary force in Sinde will, after full discussion, form the subject of a separate communication to you.

I have, &c.,
AUCKLAND.

No. 219.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, September* 26, 1839.

I AM desired by the Governor-General of India to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, and its inclosure, and in reply, to inform you that an engagement, corresponding with the paper inclosed in your letter, was entered into by Sir A. Burnes with Meer Ali Moorad, an authenticated copy of which is forwarded herewith for record in your office.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 220.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Bhooj, October* 8, 1839.

MY reports have all along shown that the idea of the Hyderabad Ameers seriously thinking of breaking with us has not only appeared to me to be highly improbable, but, I may almost say, impossible; and it is hardly necessary to add, that the triumphant progress of the Army of the

Indus to Cabool, and the victory at Ghuznee, (which I look upon, when viewed under all its circumstances, as the most important military event connected with our Indian Empire that has occured since the fall of Seringapatam,) have finally confirmed that impression, and left not a shadow of doubt in my mind as to its correctness.

No. 221.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Bhooj, October* 10, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 2nd ultimo, and to submit, for the information of the Governor-General of India, an English version of a memorandum which I have prepared and translated for transmission to the Ameers of Hyderabad.

2. Referring to the recommendation offered in the 18th paragraph of my letter of the 6th of July last, and indeed, to the whole tenor of my observations and communications regarding Kurachee, I beg to explain that I have throughout taken the instructions conveyed to me in your dispatch of the 11th of March, 1839 (to which I replied on the 29th of the same month), as my guide, and have always considered it to be my business, whatever might be my own sentiments, to impress on the Ameers, and those about them, that that sea-port had become a British possession, and that they were only allowed to conduct the administration of it pending the pleasure of the Governor-General of India.

3. The Ameers have never made the smallest objection to our troops being at Kurachee, and, immediately after Sir John Keane's force moved on from Hyderabad, Noor Mahomed Khan himself suggested, that we should retain the fort at the mouth of the harbour, which fact I reported in my letter to Mr. Torrens, of the 16th of February. There can, therefore, be no doubt but his Lordship's commands on this point will be most satisfactory to the Ameers, and that they will gladly agree to fix a moderate rate of export and import duties, to which subject I will direct my early attention.

4. It will be seen that I have dwelt particularly in the memorandum, on each chief being individually and personally responsible for his own acts, and the strict fulfilment of the engagements into which he has entered with us. I have taken great pains to inculcate this principle, but hitherto not with the success that might have been anticipated, owing to Nusseer Mahomed and Meer Mahomed Khans' being invariably ready and even anxious to place their authority and affairs under the guidance of Noor Mahomed Khan; and Sobdar Khan seeming to take no interest in what may be termed the general politics of the country. Thus, in all lengthened discussions and correspondence which I have had to carry on respecting the murder of the late Captain Hand, and the punishment of the gang by whom that and other crimes were perpetrated near Kurachee (which belongs to all four Ameers), Noor Mahomed Khan has alone taken any part; whilst, in a variety of minor instances, the two first-named chiefs have contented themselves, in reply to my separate communications to them, by referring me to Noor Mahomed Khan's letter for their answer. A steady adherence on our side to the intimation now repeated in such distinct language must, however, put an end to the combination, and ensure the introduction of the desired system at an early period.

5. In a very recent letter from the Native Agent, he reports, from secret information, that the Ameers had been discussing amongst themselves the necessity for making early provision for discharging the balance of eleven lacs of rupees, due to Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, on account of Shikarpore and the tribute; that Sobdar Khan had again peremptorily declined to subscribe one rupee towards this object, and that some of the secondary Beloochee chiefs and court favourites, such as Mahomed Khan Talpoor Thora, Mirza Khoosroo Georgian, Mahomed Yoosoof Thora, Mahomed Choota, &c., who are known to have derived consider-

able wealth from the former principal Ameers, had likewise refused to assist, on the plea that the tribute had long been virtually extinct, and that they derive no advantage from Shikarpore and its dependencies. The memorandum will, however, apprise all concerned that further delay is not admissible.

6. My subsequent inquiries lead me to suspect that the estimate with which I was furnished of the revenues of Shikarpore and its dependencies, and which I stated in the 51st paragraph of my dispatch of the 10th of December, 1836, to be three lacs and a half of rupees, was overrated, and that they have not for years exceeded two and a half lacs. Three-fifths of them belong to the Khyrpore family, and two-fifths to Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, in equal proportions. This division forms an objection to the cession adverted to in the 7th paragraph of your letter now under reply; but the right which we should thereby acquire to interfere in the management of the place, strikes me to be a very important consideration, whilst there can be no question but it would rapidly improve under our auspices and advice. I shall, therefore, take the necessary steps, without evincing any solicitude on the occasion, to sound the Ameers, and it is perhaps, whilst on this topic, worth noting, for his Lordship's consideration and future instructions, that I have some reason to think that Noor Mahomed Khan would be willing to make Tatta, with its immediate environs, over to us on the same terms, should it suit the policy of the British Government to possess such a mart in Lower Sinde.

7. His Lordship's views regarding the Chief of Meerpore shall be borne in mind, and I will in due time report on his resources, family, dependents, &c. The late Ali Moorad (the father of Meer Shere Mahomed) proposed, some years ago, to enter into an independent treaty with us, but his overtures were then necessarily rejected. The Meerpore family has never, to my knowledge, either paid tribute or contributed in any shape to the general defence of Sinde, except as mercenaries, and I do not imagine they will ever consent to do so except by compulsion.

8. I shall send copies of this letter, for the information of the Governor in Council at Bombay, and the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

I have, &c.,
HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 222.

Memorandum sent by the Resident in Sinde to the Ameers of Hyderabad.

Bhooj, October 14, 1839.

THE Resident in Sinde, having submitted to the Governor-General the objections of the Ameers of Hyderabad, has been directed by a letter dated at Simla, on the 2nd of September, 1839, to intimate his Lordship's decision on the different points to their Highnesses; and, that no mistake may occur from verbal communication, this memorandum, consisting of five articles, is prepared, and a copy of it will be furnished to each of the Ameers, under the Resident's seal and signature.

1st. Their Highnesses the Ameers Noor Mahomed Khan, Nusseer Mahomed Khan, and Meer Mahomed Khan, are each to pay to the British Government the sum of one lac of Company's rupees, or the equivalent thereof, annually, to commence from the 1st day of February, 1839, corresponding with the 15th of Zilkaud, 1254, Hejira, in part of the expense of the British troops that will henceforward be stationed in Sinde for the protection of that country. Each of the Ameers is to pay his own share of the subsidy into the British Treasury at Hyderabad at the stated period; and it is to be clearly understood, that their Highnesses are individually and personally responsible for the strict fulfilment of the engagements into which they have entered with the British Government, and that all affairs and matters appertaining to

each Ameer are to be henceforward discussed separately, and all accounts kept distinct and not mixed together in any way.

2nd. The town of Kurachee will be continued as it now is in the possession of the officers of the Ameers, and the greater part of the British troops now there will shortly be withdrawn. The fort of Moonara, at the mouth of the harbour, will for the present be retained in the hands of the British Government, and all vessels belonging to it, or sailing under its flag, are to be allowed at all times free ingress and egress to the port. His Lordship the Governor-General likewise expects that the Ameers will fix, in concert with the Resident, a fair and moderate rate of port duties and customs, which is to be made public for general information, and by which the trade of the place will no doubt be greatly increased, and the revenues of the Ameers thereby augmented.

3rd. The Governor-General of India has directed the Resident in Sinde to assure the Ameers of Hyderabad that their request that the British cantonments may be established at a distance from the capital will be complied with, and that final orders to this effect will be issued accordingly.

4th. In answer to the application of the Ameers that the 3,000 Sinde troops provided for by the Treaty shall not be called on to go beyond the Bolan Pass, the Resident in Sinde has also been directed to intimate the acquiescence of the Governor-General, and further to add his Lordship's assurance that it is most probable their services will never be required at all by the British Government.

5th. With regard to the Ameers' request that the names of the possessions of the Hyderabad Ameers may be mentioned in writing under the seal of the Governor-General of India, the Resident in Sinde has been directed to state his Lordship's opinion that such an arrangement is neither necessary nor possible. The Treaty with each Ameer is, as already mentioned in the first Article of this Memorandum, distinct and separate, and the territories of each are guaranteed to the holder of them by that Treaty; and the British Government has further agreed to act as umpire in case of any disputes among them, so that it would be contrary to that agreement, even were it practicable, to define what it has no means of ascertaining.

The above five Articles contain the replies of his Lordship the Governor-General to the appeal of their Highnesses Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Meer Mahomed Khans. In addition to them, the Resident in Sinde has also been directed to say, in answer to Meer Sobdar Khan, that the British Government has no desire or intention of interfering with, or forbidding, the friendly engagements and intercourse such as is usual amongst relations, and which subsist between him and Meer Shere Mahomed, Chief of Meerpore.

A letter has been written to Mr. Macnaghten, the Envoy and Minister at the Court of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, to obtain the necessary release from all future demands for tribute, and on account of Shikarpore. This release will no doubt be shortly received, and in the mean time the Resident in Sinde has been directed by the Governor-General to realize, without further delay, the balance of eleven lacs of Tymooree or Company's rupees, and to get it ready to be sent to the King at Cabool.

Dated at Bhooj, on the 14th October, 1839, corresponding with the 5th of Shaban, Hejira.

HENRY POTTINGER.

No. 223.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Go vernor General.

(Extract.) *Camp, Sukkur, October* 13, 1839.

IT would not be advisable that any of these Sowars should be posted in Sinde, because, under the Treaty of the 24th of December last, the Ameers are bound to suppress crime and to furnish their quota of troops

for service within the limits of their jurisdiction; and because it is much more desirable that the Ameers should be gradually led to introduce a system of regular administration into their own territories, than that the troops of our government should be in any way employed.

No. 224.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

(Extract.) *Simla, October* 24, 1839

THE Governor-General is not without hopes, that, when the Belooch tribes perceive that we are determined to put down all plundering on a large scale, and that we have the power to effect our purpose, many of them will be glad to enter into our service, and will prove true and useful to us; and to this mode of suppressing the outrages of the tribes, the Governor-General would much rather resort, than fill the country with hired horsemen, levied from other quarters; for it is of the first importance that it should be felt by the inhabitants to be their own interest to submit to the laws of order and tranquillity, a point to be gained so easily by no other means as by that of making them the instruments by which order and tranquillity are to be maintained.

No. 225.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.) *Bhooj, November* 25, 1839.

I BEG very respectfully to suggest, that a notification, in English and the native languages, may be published in the Government Gazette, to the effect, that duties will be levied on all goods, save *bonâ fide* Government stores and supplies, landed at Kurachee, but that no demand of any kind can, by treaty, be made on those sent by the Indus.

I should be very much obliged if the Governor in Council would honor me with his sentiments and instructions as to the tariff that should be established at Kurachee. It strikes me, that a list of all articles likely to be of import or export should be made out, with prices affixed, and the customs at such fair and moderate rate as may be determined on hereafter, authorized upon them. The arrangement cannot be made too simple for the Sinde Authorities.

No. 226.

Minute by the Governor-General.—Military Arrangements in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Muttra, December* 8, 1839.

THE plan which I suggested, and which has been so generally and warmly approved by the authorities consulted, of concentrating the bulk of our force upon the Indus in Upper Sinde, and holding it in readiness to proceed, on emergency, above the Bolan Pass, at the proper season, certainly contemplated no permanent occupation of a post by our own troops within the Affghan dominions; a measure to which I entirely concur with Sir James Carnac in entertaining conclusive objections. But I remain satisfied that that plan provides for the best distribution and support of our troops along the line of the Indus, a collected body somewhere near Shikarpore or Sukkur being the most efficient for the control both of Lower and Upper Sinde, and of the communications with Affghanistan, and for receiving aid and support down the stream from Ferozepore.

I am willing to sanction, for the present, though I confidently

expect an eventual, and not very tardy, reduction of it, the retention in Lower Sinde of the force recommended by Colonel Pottinger, namely, two regiments of infantry, a company of European artillery, and some irregular horse. And as Sir James Carnac attaches importance to leaving an European regiment, in lieu of one of the native regiments, also in Sinde, Her Majesty's regiment now at Kurachee, may be kept there at least for another year. I am prepared, likewise, to assent to the wish of the Government of Bombay for having the troops in Lower Sinde mainly assembled at Kurachee, with an outpost at Tatta or Jerruck, and I will request his Honor in Council to issue the necessary directions for this arrangement.

Sir James Carnac has recommended the permanent retention of Bukkur in our hands; but it will be remembered that we are under special engagement to restore Bukkur to the Khyrpore Ameers, and that we have no absolute right, under treaty, to station our troops within the Khyrpore limits. We must, therefore, have our military station in Upper Sinde, at the best spot which can be secured, consistently with our political engagements, though I do not anticipate that any demand will be pressed upon us for the early evacuation of the lines which have been formed at Sukkur.

I have, in instructions recently sent to Mr. Macnaghten, spoken of halting the returning Bombay column for a time at Sukkur. There are portions of that column which may; it seems to me, without delay, be sent back to Bombay. I refer to the 2nd Queen's Foot, which has suffered so much in the capture of Kelat, and to the wing of the 4th Dragoons; and I believe that it has already been determined by Sir John Keane, that the 5th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry shall return to that Presidency. I will, therefore, authorize General Willshire, if he should agree with me in opinion, at once to order these corps to proceed on their return to Bombay; and the Government of Bombay will, upon being apprised by that officer of their movement, have the goodness to provide the means, at Kurachee, for the transport of the men and establishments, from that port to Bombay. The transport of troops from Sukkur to Tatta and Kurachee, should, in my opinion, be as much as possible provided for by water-carriage; and, with regard to the relations which it has been decided should be maintained with the Ameers of Lower Sinde, I should not wish the route of Hyderabad to be taken.

As our knowledge of political events becomes more assured, instructions will be sent hereafter on the exact amount of force to be kept throughout the ensuing season in Upper Sinde.

No. 227.

Lieutenant Whitelock, Assistant Resident, to the Resident in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, January* 7, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to submit, for your information, various papers regarding the money I have received from the Ameers of Hyderabad on account of Shah Shooja.

2. You will perceive by the statement, that their Highnesses have paid the balance of eleven lacs.

No. 228.

The Resident in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *January* 13, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that I have received, through the Native Agent at Hyderabad, a secret message from Meer Sobdar Khan, and a copy of a letter addressed to the Agent by Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, expressive

of the wish of the latter to enter into a treaty with the British Government, on the same basis as that granted to Sobdar Khan.

2. The message begs that the arrangement may not be made public, or known to the other Ameers of Hyderabad, until it is completed; states that Shere Mahomed is a man of his word, and will be faithful to his engagements, and that having heard that I was about to return to Europe, he is anxious to get the Treaty settled before my departure.

3. Shere Mahomed's letter to the Native Agent is simply to the effect to desire him to give credit to all that Sobdar Khan may say to him on his part, and to communicate it to me.

4. I have written to the Native Agent to tell Sobdar Khan, in order that he may intimate it to Shere Mahomed, that I will make his request known to the Governor-General, without whose express sanction I have not authority to accede to it.

5. From the tenor of Sobdar's letter, it is quite clear that neither he nor Shere Mahomed contemplates the latter's being called on to make any payment to us; and my belief is, that any such proposal will lead to his declining the honor he has solicited. The Meerpore family have never, that I can discover, acknowledged tribute, or even served in the general defence of Sinde without being paid, and when Shere Mahomed moved his rabble of troops and six guns (three of which broke down, and were left on the road) towards Hyderabad, in January, 1838, he received a lac of rupees (in money and kind) for the service.

6. I formerly reported that the portion of Sinde held by the Meerpore Chiefs (of whom there are several) was roughly estimated to be worth seven lacs of rupees a-year, but this was no doubt very greatly over-rated; and I have been assured, that the total of the money collections do not average 50,000 rupees per annum, the remainder being realized in kind, and apportioned out to the numerous relations and dependents of the family, amongst whom there is said to be much ill-will and division; and the constant strife which exists for power between Shere Mahomed and his half-brothers augments these evils.

7. The Governor-General will have seen, by a late digest of intelligence from Hyderabad, that Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans have avowedly accommodated their differences with Meer Shere Mahomed, but I do not believe this compact will last for any period, even supposing it should be carried into effect. From all I have been able to ascertain of the points of dispute, the impression I have imbibed is, that Shere Mahomed has justice on his side, inasmuch as his father (who was a besotted opium eater, and a man without two ideas or a grain of sense, as was demonstrated by the absurd plot he entered into to drive us out of Cutch, in 1834) was unjustly deprived of several of his best districts by the late Moorad Ali Khan (father of Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans) during his sole supremacy, without even a pretence. I should not therefore be the least surprised to learn, that Shere Mahomed, should he be admitted to a treaty, looks to making an early application to us to arbitrate his claims against the two brothers, and that that is the real cause of his wishing the affair to be kept secret, lest those chiefs should use their influence to thwart his design.

8. It is not now possible that I can be honored by his Lordship's commands before I am relieved by Captain Outram, whom I expect here daily, *en route* to Hyderabad, but I will draw that officer's special attention to this and former letters on the same subject, in order that he may be fully prepared to give effect to the instructions he may receive.

I have, &c.,

H. POTTINGER.

No. 229.

The Resident in Sinde to Captain Outram, Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

(Extract.) *Bhooj, January* 25, 1840.

I HAVE already pointed your attention to the overtures that came lately from Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, and you will see in my

letter to Mr. Maddock, that I expect that petty chief will ask us to arbitrate his disputes with Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, as well as my ideas of the justice of his claims. Should he make the request I allude to, after he has entered into such a treaty as the Governor-General of India may prescribe, I do not see how we can decline acquiescence; and I know of no step that is more likely to raise our character, and contribute to the general tranquillity and satisfaction of the province, than putting an end to the unceasing broils and discontent that now prevail between the parties.

Meers Mahomed and Sobdar Khans have lately set up claims to participate, with the other two Ameers (Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans), in the Hyderabad share of Shikarpore: you will find this matter alluded to in one of my recent diaries, (I think in December,) and also my opinion on it, which is against the pretensions of the claimants, who never, to my knowledge, defrayed any portion of the military charges in Upper Sinde, and certainly did not contribute either to the former, or final payments which the two latter chiefs made to Shah Shooja on account of Shikarpore.

The question of the scale of port duties and sea customs at Kurachee is now before the Bombay Government, and has probably been referred to the Governor-General. There are reports on them by Lieutenant Postans and Captain Hart in the inward letters for April and December, 1839, but I have since been told by Nao Mull Seth that they are very simple and precise, and that a very little trouble will be required to arrange them to the satisfaction of the Hyderabad Government and the traders; one part of them strikes me as particularly objectionable, that is, the inferior custom-house officers' being paid by a small per centage on the goods, in addition to the Government levy. I proposed, had I gone back to Sinde, to remedy this, by adding a little to the latter, and obliging the Ameers to pay their own servants what might be deemed proper,—an arrangement which I beg to recommend to your adoption.

The Jam of the Jokeyas, who possesses the town and creek of Garrah on almost independent tenure, has several times tendered to us the use of his Bunder; and for several months in the year it is accessible to good-sized boats, and would materially shorten the land carriage. On this subject, I beg to refer you to my letter of the 22nd of April, 1839, to the Political Secretary to Government, Bombay, which contains the fullest information, and will enable you to come to terms with the Jam, should it be found advisable to avail ourselves of his offer.

One of the most important objects you should bear in mind is, to check at once, and most decidedly, any disposition that may be shewn to levy duties or tolls of any kind on merchandize proceeding up or down the Indus. Within this last month, complaints have reached me on this subject; and Meer Nusseer Khan wrote to me that he was doubly anxious for my early return to Sinde, "in order that I might settle what customs he and others were to receive." I obliged Shere Mahomed (who is a sharer in both, and Shah Bunder) to refund above 1300 rupees, which his agents had exacted on indigo from the Punjab; and answered Nusseer Khan, expressing my surprise at the tenor of his letter, after the late treaty, which, I said, sanctioned no sort of demand, however trifling, on merchandize on the river. I added, that the Bombay Government had announced this arrangement by a proclamation in four languages, but that the right of the Hyderabad State was recognized in the same document to collect duties at Kurachee, on a scale to be hereafter fixed by the two Governments.

The Ameers are very anxious to receive Shah Shooja's release from any future demands, either on account of tribute or Shikarpore; and as they have punctually fulfilled their engagements, I think the necessary acquittance, in the names of Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, should be procured and delivered to them at an early period.

You will find so much in the records already regarding the personal characters of the Ameers, that I need not enlarge on that topic. Noor Mahomed is still that intriguing and faithless person he has ever been, and I have had reason to believe that, at times, he indulges a hope of regaining his lost station as the head of the State. His influence over

his brother (Nusseer Khan) and Meer Mahomed is, however, daily decreasing, and by rigidly acting up to the plan of treating the four chiefs on a perfect equality, it must soon cease altogether. The fact is, as I wrote to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde, "Noor Mahomed trusts nobody, and nobody trusts him," so that his machinations must at all times prove abortive.

I have observed a disposition, perhaps arising from long habit, in many of the officers and chiefs about the Durbar at Hyderabad, to speak of and describe Noor Mahomed as the "principal Ameer," and even our Moonshees and servants frequently do the same. This you will see, from many of the inward and outward letters on record, is entirely at variance with the policy prescribed by the Governor-General's instructions, and in both your messages and correspondence, you should take care to avoid giving the least countenance to it.

No. 230.

The Resident in Sinde to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Bhooj, February* 7, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to inclose to you four farewell letters to the addresses of the Ameers of Hyderabad, which I shall be obliged by your having delivered to them on your arrival at that place.

2. I have told their Highnesses that I have been most desirous to pay them another visit before my departure from India, but that my health would not allow me to do so; that you have been appointed by the Governor-General to succeed me; that I have minutely (word by word) explained my sentiments and views to you; and that I doubt not but their friendship and devotion for, and confidence in the British Government will be duly increased by your measures, which will all be directed to their benefit and the prosperity of their country.

3. I have further told them, that if they will look back to the whole course of my intercourse with them during the long period of fifteen years, and especially to the stirring events of the last eighteen months, they will find that not the smallest deviation can be discovered in our promises and acts; and that, as their sincere well-wisher, I take this last opportunity to exhort them to be guided by your advice on all matters, and to strictly fulfil the engagements into which they have entered.

4. I have concluded by saying that I shall always be happy to hear of their welfare, and that if they have any commissions to be executed in England, they can send them to me through you.

5. I shall send a copy of this letter for the information of the Governor-General of India.

I have, &c.,
H. POTTINGER.

No. 231.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, February* 25, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India, that I arrived at Hyderabad last night, having been delayed much beyond the date at which I expected to do so, as expressed in my letter to your address, dated 25th ultimo, owing to detention at Bhooj in the first instance, in consequence of the severe indisposition under which Sir Henry Pottinger suffered during several days of my stay there; and again subjected to a delay of five days at Suckput, awaiting high tide, which I only then ascertained was necessary to enable me to cross to Gharra in Sinde, where I arrived on the 17th instant, and found Mehmandars awaiting me, and camels prepared, through the kind attention of the Sinde Governor.

From thence to the capital I experienced the utmost civility, the roads being cleared the whole way, and every requisite prepared at each stage, which the Ameers' representatives insisted on supplying to the whole of my suite, and would not permit me to pay for, notwithstanding my repeated endeavours to induce them to do so: neither would they allow the villagers to take payment from my people, on the latter attempting to supply themselves, as I had at first directed; consequently, to avoid giving offence to the Ameers, and to prevent indirect exactions from their subjects, I was compelled to accept the hospitality so strenuously insisted on, on the understanding that my predecessor had done so on similar occasions.

In the expectation that such would be the case, I came but slightly attended, sending most of my people with the heavy baggage by sea to the Indus, and I took every precaution to render the tax of my support as light as possible, by furnishing a memorandum of the number of persons composing my suite, and limiting the amount of supplies each should receive.

I thus can ascertain, if necessary, the exact outlay that has been incurred on this account, and I reserved the right, as I explained to the Mehmandars, of hereafter making good the amount, should the Governor-General disapprove of my having taken advantage to such an extent of the Ameers' hospitality, which I shall inform their Highnesses at my first interview, on thanking them for the attention I have received, that I have duly reported to his Lordship.

At Mahomed Khan's Tanda (the second march from Hyderabad), I was met by Meer Jan Khan, cousin of their Highnesses, Syud Zynoolabdeen Shah and other noblemen, deputed by the four Ameers to welcome and accompany me to the capital; and on approaching the Residency after dark, last night, I was overtaken by Meer Hoossein Ali, eldest son of Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Mahomed Ali, second son of Meer Sobdar Khan, and many other noblemen and principal persons of the Court, sent to congratulate me on my arrival, who insisted on accompanying me to the Residency, although I begged them not to take the trouble at so late an hour.

This morning fifteen trays of sweetmeats and immense quantities of provisions were sent by each of the Ameers, the former of which I accepted, but respectfully declined the latter; letters were also received from Meers Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans mentioning that the moment they heard of my arrival they had determined to break up the sporting party on which they are at present engaged, in order to come immediately to receive me, to which I replied by thanking them for their politeness, but begging that they would not allow me in any way to interfere with their sporting arrangements, &c.

I had the honor to receive your letter, dated the 9th ultimo, on the 16th instant, transmitting my credentials and letters addressed to the Ameers, on which I forwarded those furnished to me by Sir H. Pottinger, bidding farewell to their Highnesses and introducing me, which I had received to present personally in the event of his Lordship's letters not being received previous to my arrival at Hyderabad.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 232.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, February* 26, 1840.

IN handing up the accompanying copy of a report by Lieutenant Whitelock of his proceedings on a hunting excursion with the Ameers, I beg to call the attention of the Governor-General of India to the desire expressed by Meer Noor Mahomed, that his youngest son should learn

English, and to request his Lordship's instructions as to how far I should meet his Highness' wishes, if reported to me in sincerity hereafter.

If Meer Noor Mahomed resolves on teaching his sons English, the other Ameers will of course be incited by jealousy to adopt the same course; and it appears to me, that the greatest benefit would be derived from the intimate intercourse that might be established between the sons of the Ameers and the gentlemen of the Agency, who would reasonably be expected to superintend their education, for a strong attachment on the part of the young Princes to these instructors would naturally arise, while such instruction would enlarge their ideas, render them capable of understanding the advantages their country would derive from a more liberal encouragement of agriculture and commerce, which, if fostered, would soon make their people and themselves prosperous and happy; and to appreciate our disinterested endeavours to benefit them, from which the happiest effects would result—such as we see a most gratifying example of, in the neighbouring State of Cutch, which, through similar means, has been rescued from misery and anarchy, and its chief allied to the English by the strongest ties of affection and gratitude.

In the event of serious application being made for English instructors, I would respectfully suggest that a native, of good character and well versed in the English and Persian languages, should be selected, but placed under the immediate superintendence of Lieutenant Whitelock, who would cheerfully lend his aid in so praiseworthy an undertaking, in addition to his other duties as assistant, but the expense of the Moonshee would, of course, be defrayed by the Ameers.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 233.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, March* 5, 1840.

WITH reference to a letter to my address from Colonel Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., dated 25th of January last, a copy of which I append for the convenience of reference, although previously transmitted by that gentleman direct, I have now the honor to solicit such commands as the Governor-General may see necessary regarding the several points of policy therein touched on, at the same time respectfully submitting a few remarks, which I think it my duty to offer for his Lordship's consideration.

2. With regard to the overtures from Meer Shere Mahomed referred to in the 2nd paragraph of that dispatch, it appears to me, that Article IV of the Treaty particularly provides only for the protection of the territories now possessed by the Ameers of Sinde, and I do not see that we can do more than merely confirm Shere Mahomed in his present possessions, or listen to his claims for territory, without infringing that Treaty, however desirable it may be to settle disputes between the parties.

3. I have looked over the diaries and records to see how the claim to Shikarpore, agitated by Meers Meer Mahomed and Sobdar Khan, originated (alluded to in the 3rd paragraph of Sir Henry Pottinger's letter), but can find no clue to it; I am informed, however, that it was never carried beyond a mere verbal message to the late Resident; I trust, however, the claim has been allowed to drop, on the parties seeing how decidedly he disapproved of its prosecution, a course I shall strictly follow.

4. The arrangement of the port duties of Kurachee will soon, I hope, be settled, through Mr. Wallace, whom I am about to depute for that and other duties. The Bombay Government, to whom the question was referred by my predecessor, will shortly, I believe, furnish me with a tariff, which I trust the Ameers will readily be induced to adopt. Mr.

Wallace will be directed to effect some such additional arrangement as suggested by Sir Henry Pottinger; and I anticipate little difficulty in convincing this Government of the advantages which must accrue to itself from the reform of abuses and the institution of a more liberal scale of duties.

5. While on this subject, I venture to throw out a suggestion for such consideration as his Lordship may deem it worthy of, viz., that the farm of the Customs of Kurachee might be worth purchase by the British Government at a much larger sum than the Ameers can derive therefrom, thus securing the principal, and indeed only remaining, channel of trade between the Indus and the Ocean. Closing the only port now available for the exportation of opium and importation of slaves (the former producing a revenue of one lac of rupees, but causing, of course, an infinitely greater loss to our opium monopoly, and the latter averaging between 600 and 700 souls annually, according to a carefully compiled report on the trade of Kurachee, drawn up by Captain Hart, dated 20th of January last, which will be forwarded hereafter, being too voluminous to prepare at present), it is very possible that the Ameers might be tempted, by a liberal offer, to sell to us the farm of the sea customs for a limited term, and they would certainly appreciate our generosity in purchasing what they had placed in our power to command: after the first contract expires, should the Sinde Government object to renew it, still, the having held in our hands, for even a short period, every outlet from this country, should place the commerce of the Indus on too secure a footing to be shaken by the resumption of the Kurachee Customs hereafter.

6. The offer by the Jam of the Jokeyas of the use of his bunder and creek, is worthy of much consideration, especially should it prove practicable to open a water communication between the Garra Creek and the Indus, by re-opening the ancient canal, which I have reason to think may be easily accomplished, and at little expense, compared with the object. On this subject, I shall have the honor to address you hereafter, on forwarding copies of my instructions to an officer I am about to depute for the purpose of surveying and reporting on it.

7. I shall be strictly guided by the course of my predecessor in checking the disposition displayed to levy tolls and duties on merchandize and boats proceeding up and down the river. A species of exaction has lately arisen, which, though not alluded to by the late Resident, has been brought to my notice, viz., taxing empty boats on return from discharging cargo, though allowed to pass free when laden; this, if permitted, would soon be carried to such an extent, as to amouut to an entire restriction, the boats being then precluded from taking freight except at proportionally extortionate rates.

8. I shall have the honor to address the Envoy and Minister at the Court of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk on the subject of this paragraph.

9. The points noticed in the 8th, 9th, and 10th paragraphs of Sir Henry Pottinger's dispatch, call for no comment, but shall receive my strict attention.

10. It is now my duty, on handing up the final communication from my predecessor, to express the great obligations I am under to Colonel Sir Henry Pottinger, Bart., for the kindness with which he favoured me with his advice while at Bhooj, and his sentiments on all points connected with Sinde, which must prove a most valuable guide to me, in the commencement of my duties especially; and it will ever be my wish and pride to follow, as closely as I can, the example and policy of that gentleman in my personal intercourse with the Ameers, and official conduct of my duties generally.

11. I may be permitted to avail myself of this opportunity of mentioning, for the information of the Governor-General, that the constitution of Meer Noor Mahomed is supposed to be so entirely undermined, that he holds life on a most precarious tenure, and, were he suddenly taken ill, it is not improbable he would seek our guarantee to the succession of his younger son, Meer Hoossein Ali, to his estates, to the exclusion of the elder, Meer Shadad, to whom it is said the father bears an invincible

aversion. I conclude that our course would be not to interfere, but it is probable that both parties would find adherents and partizans among the other Ameers and nobles, and that disturbances might ensue, which would ultimately compel the interference of the British Government. I think it my duty, therefore, thus early to bring this circumstance to your notice, that if any particular instructions are deemed necessary for my guidance, in the event of such a contingency, his Lordship may be timely prepared to consider the question.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 234.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

March 5, 1840.

MOONSHEE CHOTRAM has delivered your message concerning the sending of a vakeel to the Court of Lahore.

In answer, I send this letter to inform you that it entirely rests with the Hyderabad Durbar, whether you depute a vakeel to the Court of Lahore, or not. There is not the slightest objection to your doing so.

J. OUTRAM.

No. 235.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to Lieutenant Wallace, Assistant Political Agent.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, March* 7, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to request that you will proceed to take charge of the political duties at Kurachee at your earliest convenience. Inclosed are perwannas from the Ameers, directed to their Governor of that city, informing him of your being deputed, and desiring him to aid you in all matters.

One of your earliest duties will be to suggest measures for the convenience of merchants trading to that port, whereby they may have access to it, unshackled by any restrictions, or unimpeded by any vexatious manner of collecting the customs, that may not be absolutely necessary to secure the interests of the Hyderabad Government. I am expecting to receive from the Bombay Government, a tariff, which I shall immediately advise the Ameers to adopt, and to frame on it a liberal and equitable scale of duties, which it will afterwards be your task to see strictly adhered to. You will likewise exercise a surveillance over the mouths of the River Indus, in order that no impediments contrary to the Treaty, be offered to trade by those channels.

No. 236.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir, *Hyderabad, March* 11, 1840.

WITH reference to your letter dated 31st of January last, transmitting copies of correspondence on the subject of a person named Syud Mahomed Jaffir Shah, deputed to Bombay by some of the Ameers of Hyderabad, I have the honor to transcribe an extract from my political diary of this day, for the information of the Governor in Council.

"Moonshee Chotram attended on me with an explanation, from Meers Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed, of Jaffir Shah's mission to Bombay. The Moonshee stated that he had communicated to

Colonel Pottinger, through the Native Agent, the wishes of the three Ameers to send an agent to Bombay, to tender compliments and presents to the Governor, and that they were informed, through the same channel, that they were at liberty to do so; that their only object was to cultivate the friendship of and show their respect for the Bombay Government; that they were extremely sorry, if the informality of not furnishing their vakeel with letters from the Resident, should have caused offence, which was entirely owing to their ignorance of forms; and that they now requested I would write to the Governor of Bombay, to beg that their unintentional offence may be pardoned, and their vakeel and presents received in the spirit of kindness with which they were sent; also requesting a letter of introduction, for the purpose of being forwarded to their vakeel. In answer, I desired the Moonshee to say, that I should be most happy to forward their Highnesses' explanation, which, I was confident, would be kindly received by the Governor; that the informality would be readily attributed to a mistake which could not again occur; and that I should have the pleasure to send an English letter to-morrow, for their Highnesses to transmit to their agent in Bombay."

I trust the Governor in Council will approve of my having received their Highnesses' explanation, and given the letter of introduction for their agent required by them, although perfectly aware that the statement the Moonshee was deputed to give in apology, is totally devoid of truth; but, the apology having been tendered, I see no object in appearing to discredit, or refusing to accept it, by hesitating to furnish the required letter for their vakeel.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 237.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *March* 23, 1840.

WITH reference to Colonel Sir Henry Pottinger's letter in the Secret Department, dated the 25th of November last, handing up correspondence with the officer commanding the Sinde Reserve Force, regarding the sea-customs to be levied at the port of Kurachee, I am directed to transmit the accompanying copy of a letter from the Collector of Customs at the Presidency, dated the 30th of December last, on the same subject; and to acquaint you, that the Governor in Council concurs in that officer's suggestions in the 2nd and 5th paragraphs, in respect to the rates of duty to be levied at the port in question.

2. As the Bombay tariff alluded to by Mr. Bruce in the 6th paragraph is now under revision, the Governor in Council considers that it would be inexpedient at present to publish the tariff and rates as proposed by that gentleman. After it shall have been revised it will be published, with such additions or alterations to adapt it to the port of Kurachee, as the authorities at that place may suggest.

I have, &c.,
L. R. REID.

No. 238.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *April* 6, 1840.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 4th ultimo, requesting to know the mode in which the presents directed to be made to the Ameers by Mr. Macnaghten, in a letter dated the 28th of April, 1838, to the address of Sir

Henry Pottinger, should now be delivered; as also what return should be made for those given by the Ameers to the Commander-in-chief of the Army of the Indus.

2. In reply, I am desired to state, that his Lordship in Council is desirous that the presents which the Governor-General had formerly proposed to confer on the Ameers of Sinde should no longer be delayed.

3. It may be expedient that the value of the presents made to each Ameer should be as nearly as possible equal. Between 2,500 and 3,000 rupees' value to each chief, although in the aggregate exceeding the sum sanctioned for this purpose in the Secretary's letter above mentioned, will be the lowest amount at which suitable articles are procurable.

4. The articles already in your possession will probably not be sufficient to furnish presents for the four Ameers; in that case you are authorized to procure by purchase what you consider requisite.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 239.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, April* 6, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to hand up for the information of the Governor-General of India copies of a letter from Lieutenant Wallace, Assistant-Political Agent in charge at Kurachee, dated the 24th ultimo, and my reply dated the 4th instant, forwarding orders from the Ameers to the Governor at Kurachee, and custom farmers, to discontinue the levy of customs on inland produce at two particular tannahs lately established, which will greatly lessen the evil complained of.

2. I do not think it would be proper to require a further remission at present of inland transit duties than to what was formerly levied, more than which could not fairly be expected while yet in the infancy of our Indus commerce. No visible advantage has been derived by the Ameers from their mercantile connexion with us. The evil must soon, however, correct itself, for, when traffic by the river has been more fully established, unless the inland transit duties are totally abolished, nothing whatever will be carried by land.

3. The following extract from my diary for the past week shows how little negotiation was necessary, in the anxiety of their Highnesses to attend to our wishes, to induce the reduction of the obnoxious impost to the extent I recommended:—

"*April* 1. Sent the Native Agent to the Durbar to communicate the substance of Lieutenant Wallace's letter, dated the 4th of March, representing the exorbitant prices of provisions, &c., at Kurachee, caused by the high rates of inland transit duties lately increased, to express my hope that the Ameers would reduce the land taxes on the necessaries of life imported into Kurachee, to at least what was customary previous to the British camp being established there, otherwise that I must take steps to establish grain-stores at Fort Munnora, and thence to supply the camp, which would eventually cause greater loss to their Highnesses than what they thus relinquished.

"*April* 2. The Ameers sent to say they were to-day deliberating on the subject of my message of yesterday, and would inform me of the result to-morrow.

"*April* 3. Meer Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans sent Aga Zynoolabdeen with a message to the purport that the discontinuance of the new taxes on inland produce imported into Kurachee would cause a defalcation in the revenues of all individually, and of Meer Nusseer Khan particularly, to the extent of 15,000 rupees annually beyond the others, (the new custom stations being in his territory,) still, as I had expressed the wish and represented the serious hardship the troops and people at Kurachee

suffered in consequence; they at once acceded to my wishes and sent me the necessary orders to their officers, viz.:—

"No. 1. From Meer Noor Mahomed, on the part of the Government, to their Governor of Kurachee, Syud Sadig Shah Nawab.

"No. 2. From Meer Nusseer Khan to his farmer of customs at Kujvir.

"No. 3. From Meer Nusseer Khan to his farmer of customs at Kaheem Shah-ka-Tunda, directing the abolition of the imposts at those places.

"Returned thanks to their Highnesses for their ready attention to my wishes, which would not, I expressed my belief, cause any pecuniary loss; that, on the contrary, the customs relinquished would, I trusted, be more than counterbalanced by increased trade."

No. 240.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Bombay Castle, April* 15, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with inclosure, dated the 11th ultimo, conveying the explanation of their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, named in the margin*, in deputing to Bombay Syud Mahomed Jaffir Shah as their agent, without making any communication on the subject to this Government, through the British Representative at their Highnesses' Court.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that, although Sir Henry Pottinger's letter of the 16th of January last, clearly proves that the explanation afforded by the Ameers is not only far from being satisfactory, but altogether at variance with truth; yet the Governor in Council considers that you have acted with great discretion in accepting their Highnesses' apology on the subject.

3. I am further desired to inform you that the Syud will, in consequence of the letter of introduction now produced by him from you, be recognized as the agent of the Ameers of Sinde, and as such entertained at the Government expense during his sojourn at the Presidency.

I have, &c.,

L. R. REID.

No. 241.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Without date,

Sir, *but should be dated May* 5, 1840.

WITH reference to your despatch dated the 17th of February last, received on the 24th of March, and previous correspondence on the subject of the proposed Treaty with the Chief of Meerpore, I have the honor to hand up, for the information of the Governor-General of India, the translation of a letter received by my native agent from Meer Shere Mahomed, from which it will be seen, that the chief had, at that time, no expectation that tribute would be required from him, and, in fact, it appears, that the idea of a treaty originated in the offer of the late Resident, at the same time that treaties were tendered to the four Ameers of Hyderabad in the first instance.

Under these circumstances, I did not consider that it would be of any avail, and might have been injurious, directly to proffer a treaty on the basis of contribution; but I caused the Native Agent to address the chief, as from himself, in answer to the letter he had received; a

* Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, Meer Mahomed Nusseer Khan, Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.

translation of which, also, is annexed, informing Shere Mahomed on what terms only he can expect the benefit of a treaty, and advising him how to apply to me for it.

Thus the matter rests, and I hardly expect that the Meerpore Chief will re-agitate the subject at present.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 242.

Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore to Jeth Anund, the Native Agent at Hyderabad.

I HAVE learnt from Meer Sobdar Khan, that you had delivered a message from him to Colonel Pottinger, that probably before that gentleman left Bhooj, he would receive the Treaty from the Governor-General, or very shortly afterwards. On this account, I have thought it necessary to write to you, to acquaint Captain Outram of the circumstance, and send me an answer whether it has arrived.

I am quite ready to enter into a treaty, on the same terms as that of Meer Sobdar's. It is better that treaties should be interchanged, for at the hour of need it may be of service to both parties.

No. 243.

The Native Agent at Hyderabad to Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore.

YOUR letter requesting me to lay before Captain Outram your wish to enter into a treaty with the British Government has been received.

Your wish to enter into a treaty with the British Government is very proper, and it is necessary that you should do so for the peace of your country, and in many ways, it would be advantageous. It is written in the Treaty with the Rulers of Hyderabad, that their property is guaranteed to them, and no one shall aggress their possessions. To obtain such a treaty it will behove you to contribute according to your means, to the expense the British Government is put to in protecting Sinde; you can either write to propose this to Captain Outram direct, or through me.

The British Government is just and liberal, and will not expect that you should pay so much as one of the Ameers of Hyderabad, who are richer; but in proportion to the amount of your means compared with theirs.

The advantage of forming a treaty with the British Government is manifest at any price. You will thereby be enabled to reduce your military followers. Your possessions will be secured to you, and your heirs, from generation to generation; and your enemies will not dare to molest you; but it is needless to point out all this to a person of your understanding.

In your letter, you mention that a treaty would be advantageous to both Governments. Such language is unbecoming the dignity of the British Government, thus to place yourself on an equality. Do not again write in this style.

No. 244.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, May* 11, 1840.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, dated the 6th ultimo, submitting for consider-

ation, with observations, a copy of your correspondence with the Assistant-Political Agent at Kurachee, respecting the heavy import duties levied by the Ameers of Sinde on inland produce at that place.

2. In reply I am desired to inform you that, although the British Government has no desire to interfere in the slightest degree with the internal administration of the country, the Governor-General in Council cannot regard the imposition of any new duties, or the enhancement of the former rates of duties leviable on articles of necessary consumption while on their way to a British cantonment for the supply of the troops, as consistent with that friendship and devotion which the Ameers profess for the British Government. The general rule, the observance of which you are entitled to demand, should be, that the former duties should be levied on supplies going to the market of Kurachee, and no more. This may of course admit of modification, but advantage must not be taken of our troops being cantoned at that place to raise an additional revenue from taxes on articles which they consume, to which taxes the inhabitants of Kurachee were not before exposed.

3. His Lordship in Council approves the tenor of your letter to Mr. Wallace of the 4th ultimo, and directs me to inform you that the subject discussed in the 7th paragraph of your letter, under acknowledgment, will be referred for consideration and orders to the Governor in Council of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 245.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, May 22, 1840.*

WITH reference to my letter to your address, of the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to forward, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, the copy of a letter from Lieutenant Postans, Assistant Political Agent, Upper Sinde, reporting the arrest of the individual, calling himself a Persian Prince, at Shikarpore, on the 7th instant.

2. I communicated the circumstances to Noor Mahomed and Nusseer Khans, when on the river with their Highnesses, informing the that, although I would not permit vagabonds of this description to traverse the country disseminating lies for the purpose of exciting feelings inimical to the British Government, with impunity; still, the Hyderabad Government having displayed so firm a spirit of good faith by promptly expelling the man, I purposely abstained from calling upon their Highnesses to arrest the individual, as I otherwise should have done; and, in order to save them from the odium of what might be misconstrued into a breach of hospitality to a guest, I had, instead, taken steps to cause the spy to be stopped by the first British authority he should attempt to pass.

3. The Ameers expressed themselves much gratified by the confidence placed in them, declaring themselves to be the truest and most faithful servants of the British, with the usual redundancy of asseverations, and obliged to me for displaying such consideration for their credit, adding, however, that such noxious vermin should be put to death, and asking if any orders regarding the prisoner should be sent to their Governor of Shikarpore. I answered, that the detention of the man would be reported to the Governor-General, whose orders would be awaited; but that I concluded his Lordship would merely direct the pretended Prince to be sent back to Bushire, from whence he came, with a warning that he, or others, who should hereafter come in such occupation, would be more severely dealt with.

4. This is the course towards the prisoner which I would respectfully recommend being adopted, my principal object in arresting the spy being to deter the Ameers from intriguing through such people, by destroying the hope of ever eluding our vigilance.

5. The circumstance of neither letters nor money being found upon the Persian is easily accounted for; the former, if given by the Ameers at all, which I do not think they would commit themselves by doing, would have been transmitted to their Governor of Shikarpore, to be delivered on the emissary's departure from that place, and the money in the same manner. The circumstance of his having no money on him whatever shows that he must have had some means of remitting it, for whether or not the Ameers really gave him, as is said, large sums under the pretence of purchasing watches, he had openly obtained considerable funds at Hyderabad by the sale of his property.

I have, &c.,
JAMES OUTRAM.

No. 246.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, June* 1, 1840.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter without date, forwarding communications with the Meerpore Chief regarding a treaty with him, and, in reply, to observe that the chief should be left to make the proposal for a treaty, the grounds on which it will be negotiated being perfectly known to him.

2. The whole course of your communications with the chief is fully approved.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 247.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Sir, *Fort William, June* 1, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch with the inclosures, under date the 13th ultimo, respecting the trade on the Indus, and requesting the sentiments of the Governor-General in Council, on various points discussed in a correspondence between the Government of Bombay and the Political Agent in Lower Sinde; and I am directed to state, that his Lordship in Council, upon the proposition of Captain Outram for the purchase of grain, up the river, on account of the Government, and for floating it down the stream upon rafts, for the use of troops at Bombay, is entirely of opinion with the Governor in Council of Bombay, that it would be best to leave all enterprise of this kind to the speculation of the private trader; and, in his opinion also, the proposal to employ the officers engaged in political duties on the Indus, in transactions for the benefit of traders, is wholly inadmissible. They will be ready to negotiate, as directed by their Governments, for commercial privileges, and to use their authority for the maintenance of commercial rights established by treaty; but it might lead to practices most hazardous and objectionable, if they were to be regarded as bound in any way to intermeddle with the affairs of private merchants trading on the river.

2. Every exertion has been made, by the Government, to remove, as much as possible, the impediments which were found to exist to the introduction of goods into the countries bordering on the Indus, and to their free and secure passage, and means are in operation, at the public cost, to facilitate the navigation of the river by the employment of steam vessels, and the institution of proper surveys. It only remains for the

public authorities, to make generally known the commercial facilities which are thus offered, and it must be for the enterprise and capital of the merchant to do the rest.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 248.

Intelligence from Lower Sinde.

June 16. Meer Noor Mahomed, Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed, held a secret conclave with Meerza Khoosroo, Mahomed Khan Tora, and Mahomed Yusoof, when it was proposed to send a different letter to Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, to the copy which was to be shewn to me, such as weuld cause an unsatisfactory reply from that Ameer, and so turn the English against him; but Meerza Khoosroo advised, that such a step would be liable to be detected, as I should very likely ascertain what had been written from other sources; but that it would be better to insert in the letter, every claim which could be raked up against Shere Mahomed, old or new.

Public affairs were then discussed, and it was decided, that the rule of the English over neighbouring States had become lax of late, because the British Government is surrounded by enemies, and in dread of insurrection; but that it was strictly maintained over them because, from their divided state, they had no power; but if they could all unite in one interest, it would be well: also, it was decided to be prudent, at any rate to cultivate the friendship of other Powers, and that steps should be taken to send letters. Afterwards, when in private with Nusseer Khan, Noor Mahomed took his Highness to task for corresponding with Nao Nehal Sing, unknown to him, reminding him, that he (Noor Mahomed) had to pay twenty-two lacs of rupees for corresponding with the Shah of Persia. Nusseer Khan denied having any other object than to obtain restoration of the holy relics of the Imaums Hoossein and Ali, which fell into the hands of the Sikhs on the capture of Mooltan.

These relics were brought to Hyderabad secretly, the day before, by Lukkoo Mull, an agent of the Ameers, long residing at Lahore, who was dispatched by the Sikh Government, with a letter to Nusseer Khan, stating that he (Lukkoo Mull) was entrusted with certain verbal communications, on which the Ameer was to rely: the nature of the communication I have not yet learned; but its importance may be estimated from the fact that the Sinde Government had fruitlessly sued for, and vainly offered immense sums for these relics, for years past; also its nature, from the secrecy of the transaction, the letter from Lahore, which the Ameers sent me to read (the day after their discussion on this subject, 17th instant, and two days after the arrival of the relics) intimating that the relics would not be given without previous payment of one lac and a-half of rupees; and its urgency, from the Sikhs thus voluntarily tendering these highly-prized relics, at a time when they complain that the Ameers are withholding the presents which had been always customary hitherto for them to send to the Court of Lahore.

The letter alluded to in my last diary, as having been received by the Ameers from their agent in Persia, is from Meerza Hoossein, from Shiraz, written six months ago, and forwarding a note from his son Syud Ali, who had been dispatched to Mahomed Shah at Tehran, stating that he had delivered the Ameers' message to the Shah, to which an answer is promised, on obtaining which, he would return; also stating that the Shah would march to Ispahan in March, and afterwards to Herat.

No. 249.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Political Agents at Sukkur' Loodiana, and Bhawulpore.

Sir, *Hyderabad, June* 19, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to inform you that six men, dressed like Turks, armed with pistols, daggers, and matchlocks, and mounted on camels, left Hyderabad the day before yesterday for Khyrpore, who are supposed to be emissaries of the Shah of Persia, destined to Lahore. They landed at Kurachee from Muscat, a few days ago, were immediately furnished with camels by the Ameers' Governor of that place, and came on to Hyderabad, where they stayed three days at the house of Zynoolabdeen Shah, who furnished them with camels and guides to Khyrpore. It is not known whether they had any communication with the Ameers of Hyderabad,

They give out as positive, that Mahomed Shah is advancing on Herat.

Two of the six persons profess to be masters, the rest servants. All are well dressed and equipped.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 250.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, June* 22, 1840.

I TAKE this opportunity also to explain what I omitted to do on a former occasion of obtaining perwannas from the Ameers to their officers on the lower part of the river, such as are now reported in this diary to have been sent to Captain Carless for the upper portion, that I was in consequence enabled to reduce the expense of the fuel contracts one-fifth, *i. e.* twenty maunds (pucka) being now supplied instead of sixteen, as before, and I believe Captain Carless will therefrom obtain proportional advantage above Hyderabad.

The perwannas merely direct all Government officers to permit wood to be cut any where, not in the shikargahs, and to allow the people of the country to work for the contractor on paying reasonable wages. This assistance is to be attributed to the interest the Ameers now take in the steamers.

No. 251.

Intelligence from Lower Sinde, June 22, 1840.

MEER NOOR MAHOMED held a secret Durbar in consequence of Meer Sobdar Khan having sent to demand why his name had been used in the letter about to be sent to Meer Shere Mahomed; he, Sobdar, saying that if he had any claims against that Ameer, he would adjust them direct; but that he did not choose to be made a party to their dispute with Shere Mahomed, who had always been his friend. Sobdar Khan desired, therefore, that whatever related to him, should be expunged; and informed the Ameers, that he should make known to me that his name had been made use of without his consent, or having been consulted. Meer Noor Mahomed then said, that it would have been necessary to alter the letter, at any rate, as much had been inserted which could not be substantiated, in the hope of inducing me to take a decided part against Shere Mahomed. As this had failed, however, and I had advised them to await the Ameer's answer, it was decided that it would be necessary to write a new letter.

No. 252.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Simla, July* 4, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 8th ultimo, together with its inclosure.

2. Meer Moobaruck Khan died on the 19th of July last. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the state of our affairs to the westward of the Indus, at that period; and I need only observe that we were not in a position to moot a question which might lead to open disaffection on the part of any of the Ameers of Sinde.

3. Subsequent to the return of the Bombay column under Major-General Willshire, I had an interview with Meer Roostum Khan, for the purpose of discussing the question regarding the subsidy (amounting to seven lacs) which had been demanded of Meer Moobaruck Khan, deceased. The heirs of that chief were present, and strongly represented their inability to pay the subsidy, and the injustice of claiming it after the cordial manner in which Meer Moobaruck had co-operated with Meer Roostum in forwarding the views of the British Government. They were strenuously supported in their position by Meer Roostum, and as I was not authorized to discuss the grounds on which the subsidy had been originally demanded, or to propose a smaller amount than that fixed by the Governor-General, I confined myself to such arguments as I considered likely to induce their acquiescence in full, promising at the same time to lay before Government any application they might desire to make regarding the mode and terms of payment. After a great deal of conversation on the subject, they positively and finally declined to acknowledge their liability to be called on for the payment of any portion of the subsidy which had been demanded of Meer Moobaruck.

4. Before addressing Government on the subject, I set on foot inquiries with the view of ascertaining, as far as possible, in what manner the real and personal property of Meer Moobaruck had been divided amongst his heirs. Every difficulty was thrown in my way both by them and by Meer Roostum Khan, and I failed in ascertaining the amount of treasure left by Meer Moobaruck, or the shares in which it had been disposed of. The accompanying Schedule *, however, contains a tolerably accurate statement of the manner in which the landed possessions of the Khyrpore family are distributed.

5. It remains for the Governor-General in Council to determine whether the whole, or, if not, what portion, of the seven lacs shall be exacted of the heirs of Meer Moobaruck. I am not acquainted with the grounds on which the subsidy was fixed, and cannot, therefore, offer an opinion on the question. Should it be deemed proper to demand the whole amount specified, I would, with reference to the value of the possessions held by the different sons of Meer Moobaruck, recommend that the subsidy be distributed as noted in the margin †, unless the younger sons can show that the whole, or greater portion, of Meer Moobaruck's treasure was inherited by Meer Nusseer Khan, in which case, a larger proportion of the subsidy might be demanded of him.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

* Forwarded in a separate envelope. The preparation of this Schedule occupied several months, and the information it contains was only thrown together a short time previous to the receipt of your letter now under acknowledgment. The family tree of the Khyrpore Ameers is also annexed.

† From Meer Nusseer Khan, 3,60,000 rupees.
Meer Mahomed Ali, 1,60,000
Meer Fazil Mahomed, 80,000
Meer Ali Mahomed, 50,000
Meer Wallee Mahomed, 50,000

No. 253.

SCHEDULE,

Showing the Names of the Villages and Districts possessed by the Ameers of Khyrpore, the Revenue arising therefrom, and the Names of the Jagheerdars among whom they are distributed.

Pergunna Darbela.

This Pergunna lies south of Khyrpore and meets the confines of Hyderabad.

Names of Villages	Jagheerdars.
Kamchee	Nabbee Bushk Murree.
Machla	Gholam Shah Boorgaree.
Khairah Aera	Nabbee Buksh Murree.
Bindee Marumatee	,,
Bindee Khairah Sanateea ..	Moorad Hyder Shahanee.
Tatah Moosa	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Bisharut..	,,
Abad (large city, produce 40,000 rupees annually)	Half to Nabbee Buksh, son of Dirgannah Murree, and half to Ali Murdan, son of Meer Roostum.
Bindee Sonnee Chandeea ..	Mahabat Khan Murree.
Bindee Subah Setah	Meer Ali Buksh, son of Meer Roostum.
Bhagie	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Tukeeah-i-Hadjee Shah ..	Calandar Buksh Jehangeer.
Lodee Gopong	Shahanee tribe, Moorad Hyder, and others.
Noree Machee	,,
Marsgator Majit	Bahadoor Khan Talpoor.
Taggar	Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Roostum.
Deetah	Ali Buksh, son of Meer Roostum.
Assapore (waste)	Beloochees of the Jamallee tribe.
Kolachee	Jaffir Khan Chandooa, retainer of the eldest son of Meer Roostum.
Boratie	Meer Mahomed Hassen, son of Meer Roostum.
Daoodpore	Chakur Khan, brother of Meer Roostum.
Dihli Portra	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Tattah baun Korah	Moorad Hyder, son of Meer Roostum Khan.
Kahawra	Chakur Khan.
Namanee	Moorad Hyder, son of Meer Roostum Khan.
Mithanee (borders on Hyderabad)	Meer Ali Ackbar, ,,
Abihee	Shere Mahomed, 5th son of Meer Roostum.
Sohee	,, ,,
Abram	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Ghara	,,
Balut Dera	,,
Darleela-i-Now	,,
Darleela-i-Kohirah	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Madd Kalee Ajan	Half to Gholam Shah Boorgaree, half to Durya Khan, and Kumal Khan Jhalabanee.
Madd Kaim Ajan	Meer Ali Moorad Khan.
Kah	Moorad Hydur.
Paleirah..	Ali Buksh Nizamanee.
Sonnee	Shere Khan Murree Corianee.
Baran (called the village of Syud Aturah Shah)	Bahadoor Khan Talpoor.
Kumbh	Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Suleiman.
Dalee	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Borah	Golam Hyder and Allah Buksh Kubynee.
Tindra Manger Narij	Meer Mahomed Hassen Khan. (This village is famous for Jowarree.)
Kashanee	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Brouja (large town)	Walee Dad Khan, son of Alim Khan.
Kot Bahadoor	Bhawul Khan Nizamanee.
Khaee Mumeeneea	Meer Ali Buksh.
Khaee Kassim	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Khaee Rahir	,,
Rundah	Syud Shah Shahanee.
Kawrah	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Bindee Murree	Meer Dost Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Roostum.

Pergunna Darbela.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Barrah	Meer Akhbar Ali.
Bhor Mutt	Meer Koda Buksh, son of Meer Khaira Khan.
Sadda Raneeah	Ali Merdan Khan.
Wachurah	Yakoob, Khidmutgar of Meer Roostum.
Hajamah	Hamzah "
Gungarchee	Kaurab Khan Jhalabanee.
Shaik Daoowarer (a fair is held here 15 day in Phagar ..	Ali Merdan Khan.
Haman	"
Mohlan	Bhalu Khan Murree, relation of Mahabut Khan Murree.
Sowrah	Murree Hesibanee.
Bijanee	Ali Merdan.
Bhabut Kabanee	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Challah	"
Lon Sarut	Wallee Dad Murree.
Bahan	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Waggan..	"
Waran	Sohrab Nizamanee.
Noorpooree	Shahanees of the family of Golab Shah.
Mubeya	"
Sadarjah	Gholam Mustapha.
Mata Machee	Meer Roostum.
These villages adjoin Nowshara.	
Machar	Meer Mahomed Hussen.
Peerpanj	Meer Moorad Hyder.
Tarmee	Rind Beloochees.
Chalandin	Jhalabanee Beloochees.
Kamchee	Meer Mahomed Hussen.
Weyanee	"
Jung	Sohrab Nizamanee.
Lantey	"
Ganjan	Shere Khan Boorgaree.
Dorah	Beloochees of the Murree tribe.
All these villages border the Ferozepore Canal.	
Kulab	Meer Roostum Khan.
Horee	Murree Beloochees.
Dorah-peer-adur	"
Dora	"
Kannee (waste)..	Assanund, Vakeel to the Sikhs.
Wasayah	Meer Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Suleiman.
Char Ghazee Nazur	Assa Khan Lugharee.
Kajur	Shahanees of Golab Shah's family.
Shadee	Durya Khan Murree.
Peer Pratah	"
Saral	Bahadoor Khan Talpoor.
Nalah Abaee	Mahomed Ali, Khidmutgar of Meer Roostum.
Kandee Mauree..	Meer Mahomed, son of Meer Suleiman.
Badeejee	"
Larkandah	Murree Beloochees.
Kinarah-i-Ferozewah	Meer Roostum.
Baroo	Rind Beloochees.
Kankaree	Jeskanee Beloochees.
Ghangur	Mitta Lugharee.
Nalah Kumbh	Ali Mahomed, son of Ghowhar Khidmutgar.
Noree	Boogtie Beloochees.
Nalah Ismael Derah	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Majnah	Buzdar Beloochees.
Kussou Nama	"
Nalah Machgee	Syud Amee Shah.
Nalah Doobarah (waste) ..	Meer Roostum.
Nalah Dirbee	"
Nalah Molanee	Durya Khan Jhalabanee.
Heemer	Talpoor Beloochees.
Mihtab Machee	Meer Roostum.
Barah Machee	"
Khairwah	"
Karwachah	"
Sadr	Mahabut Khan Murree.

Pergunna Darbela.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Phal	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Peran Wagan	,,
Bahawal..	,,
Poonchree	,,
These five villages lie on the Moor-adwah Canal.	
Bolee	Kumal Khan Jhalabanee.
Belahwah	Massa, Khidmutgar of Meer Roostum.
Gajja	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Cheecher	Meer Roostum.
Leeanee	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Padr Oedan	,,
Meeranpore	,,
Fetree	Meer Roostum.
Jalab Wagan	,,
Kankal	,,
Chah Dadur	,,
Durwesh	,,
Poonebree	,,
These villages lie on the Bhagwah Canal.	
Dhi Chaee	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Soudan	Ali Merdan.
Nalah Longanee	Talpoor Beloochees.
Mamman	Meer Ali Buksh.
Kumbahuratee	Meer Chakur Khan.
Chakarwah	,,
These villages lie on the Kotaeewah Canal.	

These four canals spring from the Nowlahee Canal. The Pergunna contains 137 villages. The revenue exceeds 3 lacs. Meer Roostum draws from land in this Pergunna 21,500 rupees; besides this, the contract for the customs brings him in 12,000 rupees. The tax on the artificers (Hirfaldars) is not less than 6,000 rupees, of which Meer Roostum draws 4,500, and 1,500 go to Mahomed Hassen and Ali Akbar. In addition to all this, Meer Roostum gets 5,000 rupees from fines and the produce of the villages Chachur and Kawachah. Of the remaining revenue, which may be reckoned at 2,80,000 rupees, about 1,50,000 goes to the family of Meer Roostum, and 1,30,000 to Belooch chiefs, who are his personal servants.

Pergunna of Wandeearah.

This pergunna contains forty-three gaums, and produces about two lacs, of which 1,20,000 rupees go to Mahomed Hoossein; and other sons of Meer Roostum take 9,000; 7,000 rupees contract for customs, and 2,000 half the tax on artificers; the other half goes to his sons.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Gotee Lockman..	Masso Khan Affghan.
Detaputo	Belawul, Khidmutgar of Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Jheeapute	Meer Ali Akbar.
Dodah	Meer Mahomed, son of Meer Suleiman.
Chachak	Meer Ali Akbar.
Meerzapore	Meer Ali Merdan.
Halanee	,,
Bahlanee	,,
Kotree	Meer Golam Mustapha, son of Meer Golam Hyder.
Mirabpore	,,
Daran	,,
Lakka	,,
Bazrepore	Gul Mahomed Murree.
Saidpore	Newab Khan Boorgaree.
Boodak..	Murree Beloochees.
Ghangrah	Meer Mahomed Khan.

Pergunna of Wandeearah.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Deeta	Half to Dewan Shere Sing, and half to Golam Shah Boorgaree.
Ghamran Morad	Nubbee Buksh Murree.
Panwaree	Meer Ali Akbar.
Keesimanee	Meer Chakur Khan.
Bireeanee	,,
Kuklah	Golam Shah Bogaree.
Gossong	Meer Zungee Khan.
Bhagree	Calandar Buksh Chalgaree.
Mamman	Meer Chakur Khan.
Shamir Dera	Gul Mahomed Murree.
Madd	Meer Ali Akbar.
Moosah Dera	Meeran Khan Lugharee.
Hasan Dera	,,
Sirjanee	Gul Mahomed Murree.
Machee Kaurdye	Meer Dost Mahomed Khan.
Mahabut Dera Jutow	Half to Khodah Buksh, son of Meer Kharree; half to Mahabut Khan Murree.
Tindra Syud Gul Shah ..	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Mahabut Dera Jeyal	,,
Bhowar	Meer Chakur Khan.
Dehab Abeeanee	Meer Mahomed Hoossein.
Khanwahan	,,
Bindee Syud Keral Shah ..	Meer Ali Merdan.
Homayoon	Meer Golam Shah, son of Meer Suleiman.
Shahir Syud Shooja	Meer Mahomed Khan.
Dihi Shikanee	Meerub Mahomed Khan.
Dihi Shikanee	Meerub Khan Murree Oosabanee.
Peermard	Nawab Khan Boorgaree.
Half the village of Rasulabad ..	,,

Pergunna of Ghageree, in Possession of Ali Moorad.

Produce of this pergunna 74,000 rupees; the contract of customs brings 18,000 rupees, and this and the tax on Hindoos and artificers, 6,000 more; the remaining 2,50,000 is the land revenue, of which the villages on the Meerwah give 1,00,000. There are three Kardars, one with Ali Moorad, and two in the Zillah.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Beleychinee	Meer Zangeer.
Dih Bhattee	Ali Moorad.
Bharadeera	
Mojul	Golam Mahomed Khan.
Kandee	Hafiz Hukumut Khan.
Ghazee Dera	Meer Sohrab.
Jhitaba	Nawab Meeran Khan, and Hafiz Huzumut Khan.
Moorpore	Meer Sohkah.
Belara	
Agra	Meer Sohrab.
Pathanah	Meer Sohrab, eldest son of Ali Moorad.
Mhad	Mudzudden Khan.
Sorbah Dera and Tindree ..	Meer Khanoo, the father-in-law of Meer Roostum. Meer Khodah Buksh.
Nawasah	Ali Moorad.
Cazee Nazir	Ibrahim Khan.
Gahnah Bhagat	
Mattee Derah	
Bindee	Door Mahomed Shah.
Suggee	Ibrahim Khan.
Half the Capute	Ali Moorad.
Mangapute	Azim Khan.
Pul	
Hurojorjee (large town) ..	Ali Moorad.
Dihi Parjab	
Madparjab	

Purgunna of Ghageree.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheeedars.
Gor Gobr	
Jetarjah Paeen	Door Mahomed Shah.
Jetarjah Bala	Ibrahim Khan.
Koobree	
Galeygee	Door Mahomed Shah.
Raneepore (large town, 300 shops of Hindoos)	Ali Moorad.
Darazah	Fakeer Farukah.
Bher	
Gaombat	Ali Moorad.
Korah	,,
Shahjareeab	
Kolabjail	
Saideen 1	Hafiz Hukumut Khan.
Saideen 2	Door Mahomed Shah.
Futtehpore	
Dorahladaoo	
Sohoo	Ali Moorad.
Teearee	Noor Ahmed Khan.
Deejee, or Ahmedabad	
Chodaoo	
Malorkanee	
Nanda	
Sund	
Bajjara	
Ghaud	

Pergunna of Sadda Gajan.

This Pergunna extends from Subzul to the Tindra of Mustee Khan; it is for the most part in possession of Meer Ali Akbar, second son of Meer Roostum.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Ahmedpore	Ali Akbar, second son of Meer Roostum.
Noorpore	,, ,,
Peleyja	,, ,,
Gadee	,, ,,
Dihi Machee	,, ,,
Dihi Aloe	,, ,,
	The produce of this jagheer of six villages is 22,500 rupees.
Sadarjee	Meer Zangee Khan.
Dawra	,, This jagheer produces 8,000 rupees.
Sohoo	Meer Roostum.
Kanasrah	,,
Mangee Shaik Mahaee	,,
Kolee Pulpute	,, The Kardar of this tappa of the
Tindra Nihal Khan Murree ..	,, canal of Gagara is Bahoha,
Tindra Wullee Dad Khan ..	,, Khidmutgar of Meer Roostum.
Tindra Fazal Mahomed Murree	,, This tappa produces 8,000
Tindra Gohar Khan Murree ..	,, rupees. Much indigo is pro-
Tindra Iktileen Khan Murree ..	,, duced here.
Tindra Gholam Hyder	,,
Tindra Mihrab Khan Seeghoree	,,
These four villages and seven tindras are called the Tappa of Gagara.	
Khanpore (Kardar Shera Buzda)	Meer Ali Merdan, third son of Meer Roostum. This village produces 2,500 rupees.
Mahr Ali	Zangee Khan. (Produce 1,500 rupees.)
Rahoojah	Meer Chakur Khan.
Mangarjee	,, (Produce 3,000 rupees.)

Pergunna of Sadda Gajan.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Gungnee	Meer Mahomed Hassen, eldest son of Meer Roostum.
Badhapore	" "
Tindra Meer Ali Gohar ..	" "
Jallojee	" "
Mangan Walee	" "
	The five villages produce 15,000 rupees.
Hamanlo	Meer Mahomed Hassen.
Habrilo	" "
	The two villages produce 4,000 rupees.
Alipore	Shere Mahomed, fifth son of Meer Roostum.
Garree	" "
	These two villages are very productive; there are 120 wells, and 11,000 rupees are raised. The Kardar is Sahib Khan. The contract for customs is over and above the 11,000 rupees, and is taken by Meer Roostum.
Gumbahr (produce, 1,500 rupees)	Meer Ali Buksh, sixth son of Meer Roostum
Shium	Gholam Hyder, brother of Meer Roostum,
Char	who gave it to Ahmed Khan his second son.
Darahwahan	Produces 50,000 rupees.
Wang Aseenee	
Akbarpore (1,000 rupees) ..	Gholam Shah Boorgaree.
Noree (3,000 rupees)	Mahabut Khan Murree.
Kandrah	Nusseer Khan, and the son of Meer Moobaruck.
Borah	" "
Aheejana	" "
Cobree. (This village is claimed by Ali Moorad.)	" "
Mangreea	" "
Pul	" "
Beg Majee	" "
Maree	" "
Babarloo. (This village is claimed by Ali Moorad.)	" "
Eesan baya	" "
	The produce of these ten villages is 20,000 rupees.
Samug	Meer Roostum.
Mangah	"
Tindra Lokman	"
Dorah Ladaoo	" (Kardar Sahaj Sing.)
Khyrpore	"
	These five villages produce 40,000 rupees.
Dili Tharee	
Sakeblo	
Wuranlo	These five villages produce 20,000 rupees. The
Ghoree Pathana	Jagheerdar is Bahadoor Dass.
Peer Mahomed Loodianee	
Roree	Meer Roostum.
Meeanee (3,300 is raised by the tax on tradesmen, 700 from the fair in the month of Weysabh)	" (Produces 34,000 rupees, of which 22,000 is from customs and post dues.)

Produce of the city of Khyrpore.

Tax on small chatrotras, in which articles of trifling value are taxed	Rupees	3,500
On gambling houses		1,500
Rahdaree		2,000
On large chatrotras, in which clothes, &c., are taxed		15,000
Produce of the Mint		5,000
On cafila from Jessulmere		3,000
Tax on boatmen		2,500
Passage money at Alipore		1,500
	Total ..	34,000
Total revenue which Meer Roostum derives from Khyrpore	Rupees	1,28,000

Pergunna of Sadda Gajan—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Daidah Monda	Moorad Hyder, fourth son of Meer Roostum.
Maree	" "
Mankajee	" "
	This jagheer produces 8,000 rupees.
Darra	Yakoob Khan.
Aliwahan	Syud Khan.
Dorbawahan (1,000)	Meer Ali Merdan.
Ghaderee (1,500)	Meer Ali Moorad.
Bharra	Futteh Mahomed Khan Ghoree.
Pahwur (15,000)	" "
Sangrah (10,000)	Syud Ali Bakaree.
Tharree and Syud Lall Shah ..	"
Aola	Meer Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Golam Hyder.
Boralo	" "
Moree	" "
Bameja	Meer Mahomed Khan, son of Meer Golam Hyder.
Phulwahan	" "
Gote Peer Mahomed Khan ..	" "
Thanhanee	" "
Phowaree.	" "
	These eight gaums produce 85,000 rupees.

Eight Tappas in Possession of the Sons of Meer Moobaruck.

The produce of these eight Tappas is 3,56,000 rupees; Nusseer Khan gets the

Sair Ijarah, which amount to	16,000	rupees.
Toll for crossing the river	4,000	"
Revenue of Azizpore	10,000	"
Total rupees	30,000	

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Tappa of Seudpore.	
Panah Akil	Meer Fazil Mahomed, third son of Meer Moobaruck.
Dik Choonga	"
Bhaijee	"
Nooraja	"
Bhoee	" 4,400 rupees produced from this Tappa.
Chaud Jama	"
Fakeerabad	"
Sultanpore	"
Tappa of Maharee.	
Moobarickpore	Meer Mahomed Ali, second son of Meer Moobaruck.
Bhoee	Meer Moobaruck.
Roophr	"
Dik Loonra	"
Shahpore	"
Khanpore	"
Mhatailla	"
Beraree	Meer Moobaruck's second son.
Choong	"
Cazee Wahan	"
Wah Mera	" This Tappa produces 90,000 rupees.
Half of Belanee	"
Tappa of Gotkee.	
Gotkee	Meer Ali Mahomed, fourth son of Meer Moobaruck.
Deemoowaree	" "
Half of Jangree..	" "
Salloowaree	" "
Rahmoowaree	"
Khambela	" "
Bihishtee	" "
Musjidi Supand..	" "
Kadirpore	This half of the Tappa produces 32,000 rupees.

Tappas in Possession of the Sons of Meer Moobaruck.—(Continued.)

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Adilpore	Meer Wullee Mahomed, fifth son of Meer Moobaruck.
Rukh	,, ,,
Malak	,, ,,
Gote Ali Yar	,, ,,
Chacher	,, ,,
Gote Kisan Chacher	,, ,,
Half of Sangra	,, ,,
Kharwaree	,, ,,
Gote i Kudan Calora	This half Tappa produces 35,000 rupees.
Tappa of Tattoee.	
Bahab	Meer Nusseer Khan, eldest son of Meer Moobaruck.
Sadorja	,, ,,
Saroogur	,, ,,
Nidapore	,, ,,
Tappa of Muhasira.	
Dadlo	,, ,,
Mahomedpore	,, ,,
Lada	,, ,,
Cheeha	,, ,,
	These two Tappas produce 35,000 rupees.
Tappas of Meerpore, Masaee, Noakhalin, and Jamseera.	
Malookwarree with the Tindra of Nerjabut Khan	Meer Nusseer Khan, eldest son of Meer Moobaruck.
Wastee Inayut Khan	,, ,,
Wastee Kalboodem	,, ,,
Kottee Fazil Baja	,, ,,
Jehanpore	,, ,,
Sirhad	,, ,,
Kattee	,, ,,
Tattah Malnah	,, ,,
Bhagoo Darrah	,, ,,
Dihi Saidpore	,, ,,
Dihi Islam Lasaree	,, ,,
Jehan Khan Aonar	,, ,,
Dihi Kolachee	,, ,,
Nekanee	,, ,,
Meerpore Massa	,, ,,
Wahee Shere Khan	,, ,,
Dihi Nihal Khan Katran ..	,, ,,
Dihi Heyab Mugsee	,, ,,
Dihi Shere Khan	,, ,,
Womgee	,, ,,
Khanshir	,, ,,
Makan	,, ,,
Machee	,, ,,
Wahee Bana Chacher	,, ,,
Wahee Feroz Chacher	,, ,,
Kolaee	,, ,,
Yusuf Naij	,, ,,
Sadik Fitafee	,, ,,
Meral Hyderanee	,, ,,
Heyah Fitafee	,, ,,
Dada Naij	,, ,,
Dik Mahvalo Cabool	,, ,,
Chakaswah and the Gharree Buzdar	,, ,,
Latifucah	,, ,,
Jubeerdar Khan Landah ..	,, ,,
Kairuwah	,, ,,
Salah Kumdah and Noorwah ..	,, ,,
Dihi Bahee	,, ,,
Half of Bhelee	,, ,,
	These three Tappas produce 1,20,000 rupees; of this 50,000 go to Nusseer Khan, 70,000 to his retainers, Belooch Chiefs.

Pergunna of Der.

This Pergunna contains fifteen villages, and produces a revenue of 1,34,000 rupees.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Rowtee	Meer Ali Akbar.
Ketee	„ (Produce of these three villages,
Mooradpore	30,000.)
Sangah (6,000 rupees) ..	Meer Ali Merdan.
Meergot (5,000)	Meer Dost Mahomed.
Rahashee	Futteh Mahomed Khan Ghoree.
Wangar	„ (Produce of these three
Sewasher	villages, 40,000 rupees.)
Ahangaran (1,500 rupees) ..	Mahomed Hoossein Belooch.
Lahee (2,000)	Mahomed Khan, son of Gholam Hyder.
Khyrpore Derhee	Meer Roostum.
Cobaiwa	„ (40,000 rupees are raised from the
Mahomedpore	land-toll, and 10,000 by other
Toong	taxes.)
Kotla	

Tappa of Imaumwah.

This pergunna produces 25,000 rupees, of which 10,000 go to Meer Roostum, and 15,000 to Belooch Jagheerdars. Shahbag Khan, of the Mahr tribe, is chief Zemindar.

Perqunna of Bhoong Bhara.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Bhoong	Meer Roostum Khan.
Geereejung	„
Meer Wali	„
Datas Wali	„
Khushal Eeder	„
Beydanee	„
Shah Wali	„
Derah Megum Potatee ..	„
Kundree Wali	„
Dowlutpore	„
Machka	„
Chapree	„
Jewan Shah	„
Wanpa	Futteh Mahomed Ghoree.
Sawetree	„ (Produce of this Tappa is
	30,000 rupees.)

Subzul.

From the district of Subzul a revenue is derived, which amounts to 90,000 rupees, of this, 60,000 go to Hyderabad, and 30,000 to Khyrpore. The Khyrpore share is divided among Meer Roostum, Meer Ali Merdan, Kumal Khan Jhalabanee, and Moosa Khan Affghan; of these, the first gets 7,000 rupees, the second 18,000, the third 4,000, and the fourth 1,000.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Subzulkote	Meer Roostum and Ali Merdan.
Dihdee	„
Shahpore	„
Bhattee	Kumal Khan Jhalabanee.
Naloohwarree	„

Pergunna of Shahdadpore.

This Pergunna belongs to Hyderabad, but the Khyrpore Chiefs were formerly Zemindars of it, and still hold these few places, which bring them in 10,000 rupees.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Gohree	Roostum Khan.
Kagan	Sons of Moobaruck.
Johrabpore	Ali Moorad.
Ahanchee	„
One village, name unknown ..	Zanjee Khan.
Kushawra (13,500 rupees) ..	Meer Nusseer Khan.
Khan Bradanee and Khail (4,000)	Shere Mohamed Khan and Meer Roostum.

Pergunna of Boordika.

This Pergunna contains twenty-three villages, and the revenue annually drawn from it may be reckoned at 63,000 rupees, of which Meer Roostum appropriates 40,000, and the remainder is enjoyed by Jagheerdars. No part of Sinde is more capable of improvement than Boordika; the whole district might be brought into cultivation, as irrigation might be carried to any extent; but at present large tracts are occupied by the densest jungle, and the marauding Beloochees here are exceedingly daring and active in their depredations.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Gobla	Meer Roostum.
Bhart	„
Gotee Yarroo	„
Dihi Daibut Shahee	Syud Yakoob Shah.
Tindra Jaffir Khan	„
Bannee	Half to Syud Khan Mahomed, and half to Meer Roostum.
Gandah	Khanah Boordee.
Gazeepore	Meer Roostum.
Dunyapore	„
Hamakawgah	Bijjar Boordee.
Sheergurh	Sheer Mahomed Boordee.
Sheergurh, 2nd	„
Bhaitawarpore	Meer Roostum.
Gotee Noor Mahomed Sheyan ..	„
Tul (on the banks of the Nowah canal)	„
Oodee	Dost Mahomed.
Futtehabad	Dost Mahomed Khan, eighth son of Meer Roostum.
Gote Meree and Durree ..	„ „
Ooyala and Arayee	„ „
Seyha and Arayee	„ „
Charanee and Joha Bihar ..	„ „
Small hamlets attached to Futtehabad.	
Garree Tehgar	Mahomed Khan Murree.
Dihi Mahree	Ali Merdan Khan.
Dihi Oda	Meer Roostum.
Gharre Maleyna	„
Gote-i-Lahoo Jatooee	Ser Mahomed, son of Meer Roostum.
Loh Jatooee	„ „
Darahpore Jatooee	Imaum Buksh, Chief of the Jatooees.
Labahpore Jeewran	Futteh Mahomed Khan Ghoree, the Vizier of Meer Roostum.

Pergunna of Chakmazarchee.

In this Pergunna there are fifteen and a half villages, producing 27,000 rupees, of which Meer Roostum enjoys the whole except 1,500 allowed to Shere Sing Dewan.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Chak (large town)	Meer Roostum.
Futteh Tindra	Shere Sing Dewan.
Ambar	Meer Roostum.
Dihi Rahban	,,
Half of Garree Ada Shah ..	,,
Mazarchah Nohwah	,,
Half of Meyanee	,,
Arane	,,
Roostum	,,
Bohree	,,
Half of Khanpore	,,
Kazan, Shahpore, Logra, small hamlets attached to Khanpore	,,
Shercote..	,,

Mahal of Ropah.

This Mahal contains thirteen villages, and produces about 12,000 rupees, of which Meer Roostum draws 8,000, and the rest goes to jagheerdars. Towards Janeedera the depredations of the Doomkies, Kalpur, Boogties, and Jachranees, have rendered the country nearly a waste, but it is now recovering.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Gotu Sultan	Meer Roostum.
Dihi Jagan	,,
Pahal Sadarja	,,
Kahara	Suleiman Hajjam.
Nalah Abdalwah	Dewan Shere Sing.
Lodra	Meer Roostum.
Abad	,,
Weeran	,,
Khangurh	,,
Janeederah	,,
Nallah-i-Zabah	,,
Nallah-i-Seeda	,,
Nallah-i-Nowrah	,,

Shikarpore.

Four-sevenths of the revenue arising from the city of Shikarpore go to Hyderabad, and three-sevenths to Khyrpore. The whole revenue may be estimated at 94,300 rupees, raised as follows :—

Peshkush, from Hindoos	2,800
,, artificers	4,000
Gardens in which the Shahee and Shahzada Baghs are not included	2,000
Tax on fields and wells near the city..	3,500
Customs on exports and imports	82,000
Total rupees	94,300

Of this amount, 54,000 rupees is the share of Hyderabad, and 40,300 the share of Khyrpore. This again is divided between Meer Roostum and Meer Nusseer Khan, the eldest son of Meer Moobaruck, Meer Roostum receiving 30,300 rupees, and Meer Nusseer Khan. 10.000 rupees.

Scattered Possessions of the Sons of Meer Moobaruck.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.	
Sukkur	Sons of Meer Moobaruck.	
Rahoojee	,,	
Jafferabad	,,	
Wasserabad	,,	
Kadirpore	,,	
Aliwahan	,,	
Batar	,,	
Malani Khalsanee	,,	
Dihi Amal	,,	
Dihi Aedar Shah	,,	
Mahomed Bhagh	,,	
Tindra Syud Daturmatshah ..	,,	
Bopaee	,,	
Arda Tabeea	,,	
Dih Anil Doern	,,	
Abeylanee	,,	
Gol Abdul Ghawrnee	,,	
Half of Meeanee	,,	
Half of Gharree Aboo Shah ..	,,	
Wuzeerabad	,,	
Dih Tayal	,,	
Gohree	,,	
Mustee	,,	
Dihi Jarma	,,	
Gharree Rhoodal	,,	
Mahar	,,	
Angoota	,,	
Malah-i-Thuggee	,,	
Gote-i-Habil Mahr	,,	
Kaleyneea	,,	
Cazee Wahan	,,	
Thalwareer	,,	
Julee	,,	
Marree	,,	
Aurungabad	,,	
Holee	,,	
Laggegjee	,,	
Tindah	,,	
Rukh	,,	
Bhawra	,,	
Bhajajee..	,,	
Moobaruckpore..	,,	
Nowgate	,,	
Shah Wallee	,,	
Sohanja	,,	
Tindra Bahar	,,	48½ gaums, producing 55,000 rupees.
Bhorcaree	,,	
Got-i-Jaffer Khan Chandia ..	,,	
Jawra	Kadir Buksh Kosah.	

Scattered Villages of Meer Ali Moorad.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.	
Sharpe	Meer Ali Moorad.	
Bijajee	,,	
Half of Napir	,,	
Durgra	,,	
Hotee	,,	
Barkau	,,	
Gol-i-Hooda	,,	(Thirteen and a half villages, producing 17,000 rupees.)
Jabanah..	,,	
Tawree	,,	
Gharree Halnir..	,,	
Pharlanga	,,	
Napir Boocha	,,	
Murid-i-Jith Azirt	,,	
Gharra Dahbar..	,,	

Scattered Villages of Meer Mahomed Khan, Son of Gholam Hyder.

Names of Villages.	Jagheerdars.
Chodea	Meer Mahomed Khan.
Salwanee	„
Meerzapore	„
	(Three villages, producing 8,000 rupees.)

Total Revenue of the Khyrpore Territories.

Pergunnas.	Rupees
Darbelah	3,00,000
Wandearah	2,00,000
Ghageree	3,74,000
Sadda Gajan	4,04,000
Sheerpore	3,86,000
Obbara and Khyrpore Desha	1,36,000
Imaumwah	35,000
Bhoong Bhara	30,000
Subzul	30,000
Shahdadpore	10,000
Kashnore	5,000
Khaee	4,000
Boordika	63,000
Chahmarchee	27,000
Ropah	12,000
Shikarpore	40,000
Scattered gaums in possession of son of Meer Moobaruck	55,000
„ of Ali Moorad	17,000
„ of Meer Mahomed Khan	8,000
Total..... Rupees	20,36,000

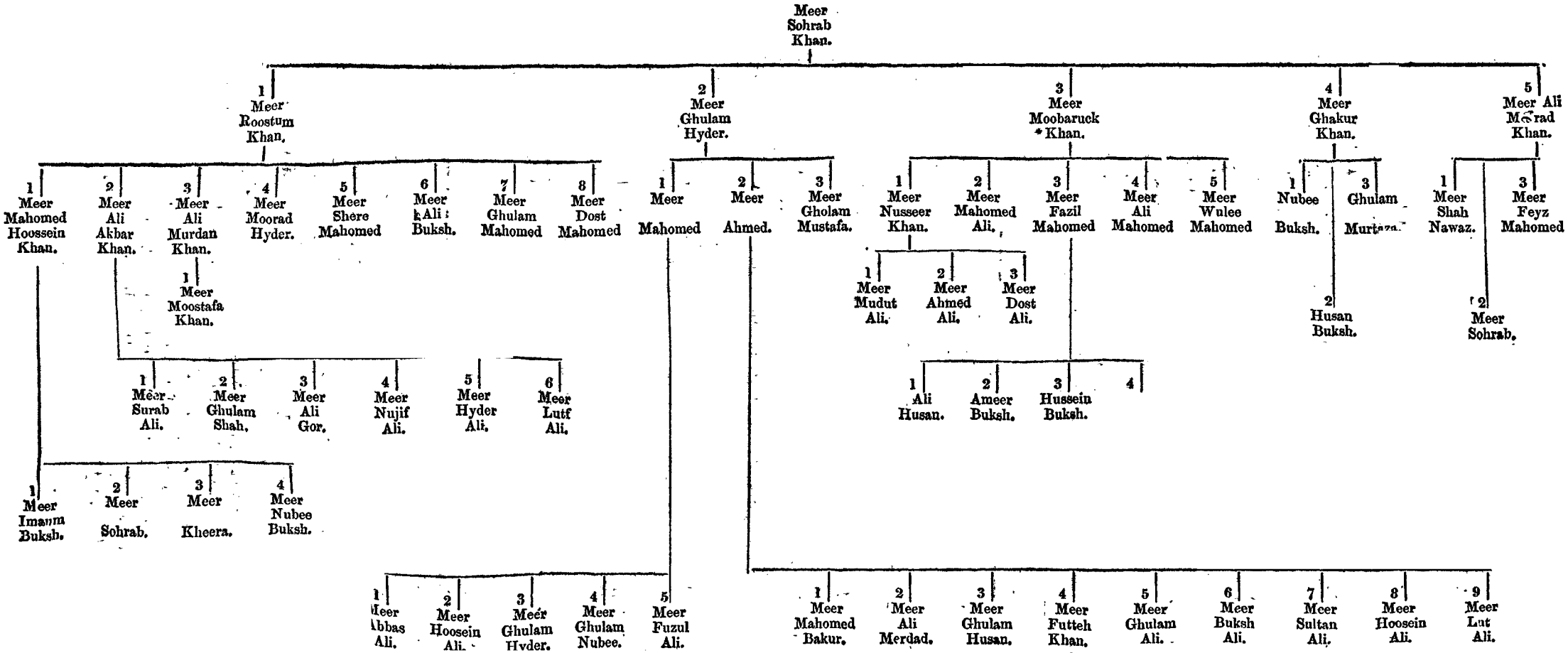
Abstract, showing the number of Villages, and Revenue of each of the Ameers of Khyrpore.

Names of Proprietors.	No. of Villages.	Amount of Revenue.
Meer Roostum Khan	331 ..	11,00,500
Chakhur Khan	2 ..	3,000
Zungee Khan, uncle of Meer Roostum	3 ..	9,500
Nusseer Khan, Mahomed Ali, Fazil Mahomed, Ali Mahomed, Wallee Mahomed, } sons of Meer Moobaruck, conjointly	58 ..	75,000
Nusseer Khan	52 ..	2,00,500
Fazil Mahomed	8 ..	44,000
Mahomed Ali	12 ..	90,000
Ali Mahomed	9 ..	32,000
Wallee Mahomed	8 ..	35,000
Ali Moorad	64 ..	2,95,500
Mahomed Khan, Ahmed Khan, and Gholam Khan ..	22 ..	1,54,500
Grand total, rupees ..		20,39,500

E. B. EASTWICK.

No. 254.

THE FAMILY OF THE AMEERS OF KHYRPORE.



E. B. EASTWICK.

No. 255.

Lieutenant Brown to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Sukkur, July* 5, 1840.

IN reply to your letter of the 19th ultimo, I have the honor to inform you, that Ali Hoossein, vakeel of Meer Ali Moorad, waited upon me yesterday, and informed me, that some days ago, he received intimation from his newswriter at Khyrpore, that individuals (Persians or Arabs) mounted on camels, arrived at that place, from Hyderabad. They lived with Futteh Mahomed Ghoree; and two successive nights, two of the party visited Meer Roostum Khan, when, besides his Minister and visitors, no one was permitted to be present.

The newswriter further says, that for the last four days, the party has disappeared; in what direction they have gone, he knows not, though he believes their destination to be Nepal.

Ali Hoossein promises to discover, and let me know this point; also whether they have been entrusted with any papers or letters. The latter, considering the secrecy with which the meeting is said to have been conducted, will be a matter of some difficulty.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

No. 256.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, July* 13, 1840.

I APPREHEND no disturbances in Lower Sinde of a nature to compromise us in any serious manner, although possibly the feuds between some of the Hyderabad Ameers and the Meerpore Chief, may cause trifling internal commotions, if I fail to induce the parties to settle their differences amicably, as I hope to do.

Nothing short of the most serious disaster to our troops in Upper Sinde, and the neighbourhood, would encourage, I am of opinion, the disaffected in this province, to open attempts against our power, and such are not, I consider, to be dreaded.

On the subject of the stoppage of our dawks by a Thannah belonging to Meer Shere Mahomed, I beg to observe, that I am convinced that chief is at present too anxious to obtain our support to have authorized that aggression, and I have little doubt it originated in the supposition of the Thanadar, probably himself a farmer of the customs, that the dawk packets contained merchandize, or other articles, on which duty should be paid.

No. 257.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Assistant Political Agent at Kurachee.

Sir, *Hyderabad, July* 15, 1840.

AN Affghan arrived here this morning, with a camel load of pepper, which he gave out that he was taking to Sukkur, under a pass, for the British Commissariat. Having reason to suspect that the revenues of this Government are frequently defrauded by persons showing false papers, which the ignorant natives are unable to detect, I called for this man's passport, and the inclosed private note was produced, written by one gentleman at Kurachee to another, and having no relation to the matter, which somehow had fallen into the man's hands, who confesses, that by shewing it to the Ameer's custom officers at Tatta, he evaded payment of the usual land transit dues.

It is of course incumbent on us to prevent such frauds by every precaution in our power; and as it is too easy to impose any paper of English writing upon the Ameers' officers as a British officer's pass note for articles permitted by Treaty to pass free by land to the British camps, I deem it proper to lay down the following rules for your guidance in granting such papers, *i. e.* the passport to be of the accompanying form, written on one side in English, and on the other in Persian, specifying the purpose and quantity of the articles passed; the English column to be signed by the British functionary, and the Persian by the Governor of Kurachee, who will have a right to stop the parties importing under that authority, should he ascertain that the quantity specified has been exceeded.

All permits having thus to go through the hands of the executive officer of the Sinde Government, gives him a knowledge of what really has the sanction of British authority, and opportunity for detecting what has not, and his seal and signature being known to all the custom farmers, which that of the British officer could not be, prevents the possibility of false papers being imposed upon them.

The representative of the Sinde Government has an undoubted right to see that nothing but what is entitled, by Treaty, to exemption from inland transit duties, and that nothing beyond what is specified in the permits, should pass under their sanction, and this is the simplest mode of informing him, without any appearance of a degrading surveillance being exercised by the Sinde officer, or causing unnecessary delay or trouble; neither will it be in the power of the native authority to throw difficulties in the way, by withholding or delaying to affix his seal to the duplicate Persian invoice on the face of the passport, when sent to him for that purpose and his information, as the penalty of any such neglect, if not redressed on representation, by the Ameers, would be reverting to the system of passing property under our own authority, which the Sinde Government would be sorry to drive us to.

I request you will furnish a copy of this letter for the information of the Brigadier commanding the troops; it will be necessary on all occasions of your leaving camp, that you should delegate to any officer he may direct, your authority for granting permits, to prevent inconvenience during your absence.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 258.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, August* 12, 1840.

I HAVE now the honor to lay before the Governor-General of India in Council, translations of correspondence between some of the Ameers of Hyderabad and Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore on the subject of certain boundary disputes, regarding which much has been noted from time to time in the diary of this Agency, extracts from which are appended, to save the trouble of reference to the diaries themselves.

2. It will be gratifying to his Lordship to observe, from this correspondence, that the parties to this dispute, which has been carried on with virulence for many years past, have at last agreed to submit it to arbitration; not only will it prove satisfactory on moral grounds, to put an end to this feud, but also is it of importance that the plea should be removed for raising troops on either side, in fear of the other's aggression, and necessary that no grounds for internal commotion should remain, which, however petty the warfare, would disturb our communications to the southward, where Meer Shere Mahomed's territory chiefly extends, and might even compromise, for a time, the safety of the river, where bounded by the possessions of that chief.

3. As both parties are willing, and of themselves seek, that an umpire on behalf of the British Government should be appointed, to decide where the arbitrators cannot agree; I most respectfully submit my opinion, that it will be politic, and is necessary, so far to interpose our mediation; because thereby the actual boundary of the Hyderabad Ameers' territories, for which the

British Government is guarantee, having been defined and fixed, where connected with those of Meer Shere Mahomed, the only person likely to distrust them; that chief will fully understand that he cannot infringe, with impunity, on what is then no longer doubtful property, and is declared under our protection; while, at the same time, the Hyderabad Government will be equally aware, that no encroachment on the territory of their neighbour can be effected without exposure, or will be countenanced by the British Government; and I consider our mediation necessary, because without it the dispute never can be satisfactorily settled, for the arbitrators will always find some points on which the stubborn pride of neither would yield to the other party, although to a third party they might be cheerfully conceded.

4. Should the Governor-General of India approve of the measure, I propose deputing Lieutenant Whitelock on the above duty, which, it is unadvisable, for many reasons, should be intrusted to a native, more particularly as the integrity of the British character is already fully appreciated in this country, and the unbiassed decision of a British officer would be admitted as just by both parties, and bowed to without any feeling of degradation or heartburning.

5. It will, I trust, be satisfactory to his Lordship to mark the confidence with which Meer Shere Mahomed relies on our just mediation, notwithstanding the more immediate ties by which the Hyderabad Ameers are connected with us, which may be traced to the care with which I have avoided every thing that could be turned by his opponents, as evincing a bias against him.

6. Throughout the whole of my communications with the Ameers, relating to this subject, direct and indirect, which have been more frequent, and at greater length than could be detailed in the diary, I have invariably evinced the utmost reluctance to interfere at all in what, all parties being relatives, I endeavoured to inculcate, would be more creditably settled among themselves, while, at the same time, preventing either side from aggressing on the other, until compelled by the openly expressed wish of both sides, to refer the case to the Governor-General, to avert a rupture between the parties, and consequent disturbances. I uniformly display a most earnest desire to avoid, as much as possible, any concern in the disputes of the Ameers, beyond giving friendly advice when asked, which course is, I trust, in accordance with the wishes of his Lordship.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 259.

The Secretary to the Bombay Government to the Political Agent in Cutch.

Sir, *August* 26, 1840.

I AM desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter with inclosures dated the 25th ultimo, on the subject of a representation made by the Rana of Parkur, to the Ameers of Hyderabad, to relieve his country from the presence of the officers who are deputed there by their Highnesses to collect the revenues due to them, and to substitute the payment of an annual sum, fixed on an average of the ten preceding years, by the chief himself, direct to the Ameers' Treasury, under full and ample security against any defalcation.

2. In reply, I am desired to inform you that the Governor in Council is doubtful of the propriety of your having adopted the proceedings now reported, which, if it comes to the knowledge of the Ameers, may probably excite their jealousy, and lead them to suppose that this Government meditates interfering with their internal affairs.

I have, &c.,
W. R. MORRIS.

No. 260

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde

Sir, *Fort William, September* 14, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, dated the 12th ultimo, on the subject of the boundary disputes between the Ameers of Hyderabad and Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, which both parties have at length agreed to refer to arbitration, on the condition that an umpire be appointed on the part of the British Government, and in reply to state, that the Governor-General in Council has been pleased to sanction the arrangement, and to approve of the deputation of Lieutenant Whitelock for the purpose contemplated.

2. Though the Government of India is by treaty called upon to interpose its mediation between those of the Ameers of Sinde who have entered into engagement with it, it would not seek, even in respect to such of their chiefs, to multiply the occasions for its interference. With regard to Meer Shere Mahomed, no obligation of treaty exists, but, under the circumstances stated in your dispatch, and with reference to the feelings of deference exhibited by all the parties in the dispute towards the British Government, his Lordship in Council has been pleased, as above stated, to accede to the arrangement which you have adopted.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS

No. 261.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, September* 22, 1840.

MEER SHERE MAHOMED KHAN'S civility is the more satisfactory as an evidence of the friendly spirit with which he looks upon troops passing through his territory.

No. 262

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, October* 2, 1840.

THE possibility that a further failure of the health of Mr. Ross Bell, the Political Agent in Upper Sinde may incapacitate him for the discharge of the important duties attaching to his office, under recent instructions regarding the affairs of Upper Sinde and Kelat, I am desired to state, that, in the event of Mr. Bell's being compelled to relinquish those duties, it is the wish of his Lordship in Council, that you should assume charge of them, with the full authority which has been committed to that officer.

A copy of this letter is communicated on this date to Mr. Bell.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 263.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

Sir, *Fort William, October* 5, 1840.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated 29th July last, on the subject of the customs to be levied at the port of Kurachee, and in reply to state, that the question is not one which could at present be expediently taken into consideration.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

No. 264.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, November* 2, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 5th ult., reporting the progress of troops to Upper Sinde, and forwarding extracts from private letters, shewing the conduct of the Ameers' officers and demeanour of the people as most civil; and in reply, to request that you will be good enough to convey to their Highnesses the expression of the high satisfaction of his Lordship in Council, at the conduct of their officers in facilitating the movement of the 6th Regiment, and the civility and attention shewn by them to the officers and men.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 265.

Intelligence from Upper Sinde, November 1 *to* 7, 1840.

DURING the week I was visited by his Highness Meer Roostum Khan. I had the "Meteor" prepared for his reception, and we proceeded a short distance up the river. The day afterwards General Brooks and I accompanied Meer Roostum on a hunting party; and several interchanges of visits, ceremonious and private, took place, during which I discussed with him the conflicting claims of Meer Ali Moorad and Nusseer Khan to Buburlow and the three other disputed villages. We decided, after a careful consideration of the evidence on either side, that the right belonged to Meer Ali Moorad; but as there had been so much ill-feeling on the subject, and in order that Meer Ali Moorad might not have the appearance of having kept the lands by force, I agreed with Meer Roostum that it would be advisable to request him to make over charge of them for a time to two persons, one to be appointed by the latter, as chief of the Khyrpore family, and one by me, as umpire. The request has accordingly been made, and Meer Ali Moorad is to meet me in a few days for the purpose of discussing the subject personally.

No. 266.

Intelligence from Upper Sinde, November 8 *to* 14, 1840.

AT the invitation of Meer Roostum, I crossed the river and had a long private interview with him. I pointed out to him the great inconvenience which resulted to his own interests, as well as to those of my Government, from the military* conduct and inefficiency of his Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree. I also stated to him my firm conviction, that with the individual in question have originated all the domestic feuds at present existing in the Khyrpore family. His Highness said in reply, that he could not deny the justice of my remarks, and that he had for some time past been watching the various intrigues

* Sic in orig.

carried on by those about him. After going through many details, which it is unnecessary to recapitulate, he concluded by saying, "The only manner in which we can prevent any risk of written communications of importance which may pass between us being suppressed or misrepresented is by a confidential agent of either party residing constantly with the other, and, for this purpose, I shall select one of my sons on whom I can best depend, to accompany you wherever you go." I entirely concurred in the expediency of the arrangement proposed, and acquainted his Highness that, as I could not trust any native of Hindoostan in a position affording so many temptations for intrigue, I would select an English officer to reside at his Durbar, through whom all my communications should be forwarded, and who would make him privately acquainted with the contents of any letter addressed by me to himself which I might not consider it advisable to send through the Persian office. Meer Roostum expressed himself highly pleased, and remarked that there would not hereafter be any risk of concealments between us from the roguery of those about him. He then begged me to use my influence with Meer Ali Moorad to induce him to make over the disputed villages for a short time to two agents, one to be appointed by him (Meer Roostum), the other by me; an arrangement which, he justly remarked, would have the double effect, of satisfying Meer Nusseer Khan, that Ali Moorad had not attempted to detain the disputed lands by force, and of shewing the inhabitants of Sinde, that proper deference had been paid to him (Meer Roostum), as head of the Khyrpore family. This I promised to do, and Meer Roostum named a confidential agent of his own to be in readiness to accompany one selected by me for the duty.

On the 9th instant I was visited by Meer Ali Moorad, and the following day General Brooks and I accompanied him on a hunting party. We had several conversations regarding the disputed lands, and it was not without considerable difficulty that I succeeded in persuading him to resign the lands into the hands of agents appointed by Meer Roostum and myself. He finally agreed to do so, however, and sent his Minister with me to make over charge of the villages in question.

No. 267.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Fort William, November* 16, (No. 125) 1840.

IT will be seen by Major Outram's dispatch of the 5th ultimo, that the conduct of the Hyderabad Ameers' officers, and demeanour of the people towards our troops, *en route*, through Lower to Upper Sinde, was most friendly.

No. 268.

Intelligence from Upper Sinde, November 15 *to* 21, 1840.

ON the 18th of November, Buburlow, and the other villages in dispute between Meers Ali Moorad and Roostum Khan, were transferred, by the former, to officers appointed by Meer Roostum and myself to receive charge of them. This arrangement was made, as formerly reported, at the request of Meer Roostum Khan, in token of respect to him, as head of the family, and I delayed drawing up my decision on the conflicting claims of the competitors, until his Highness' wishes, in this respect, were complied with.

No. 269.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, November* 26, 1840.

WITH reference to my diary of the 22nd instant, I beg leave to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, what took place at my interview with Meer Noor Mahomed Khan on that day, when I waited on his Highness to introduce Dr. Owen.

I had not seen the Ameer for some days, having purposely abstained from pressing a visit (although daily inquiring after his Highness' health, and intimating that I should be happy to do so in person, were I not afraid of giving trouble), for two reasons, first, lest any pledges should be sought from me, which it might have been out of my power to give, and would have distressed the invalid to refuse; and secondly, to avoid any appearance of wishing to interfere in the family matters of the Ameers. On the day alluded to, however, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan having expressed a wish to see me, on the occasion of the introduction of Dr. Owen, I of course displayed the utmost alacrity in availing myself of the opportunity, and went early accompanied by that gentleman.

We were met at the fort gate by Meer Shahdad, Meer Noor Mahomed's eldest son, who conducted us to the dwelling where the Ameer's married wife resides, to which his Highness had been lately removed to die, on all hope of recovery being given over. Meer Nusseer Khan, and the other sons of their Highnesses, received us when we dismounted, and the former led me to the sick Ameer's bedside, who, on seeing me, attempted to rise, which I hastened to prevent; but his Highness hailing me as his brother, put his arms round me, and held me in his embrace a few minutes, until I laid him quietly down. So feeble and emaciated had the Ameer become, that this exertion quite exhausted him, and it was some minutes afterwards before he could speak, when, beckoning his brother Meer Nusseer Khan, and youngest son Meer Hoossein Ali, to the bedside, he then took a hand of each, and placed them in mine, saying, "You are their father and brother, you will protect them," to which I replied in general but warm terms of personal friendship, but, that I trusted that his Highness himself would long live to guide and support them; but this the Ameer had evidently given up all hope of, and appeared to regret that he had given Doctor Owen the trouble of coming so far, though very grateful for the prompt manner in which his wishes had been attended to. Meer Shadad, the eldest son of Meer Noor Mahomed, was present when the circumstance above mentioned took place, but appeared neither surprised nor chagrined at the preference displayed by his father, and continued to join in the conversation as if nothing had occurred.

Doctor Owen, having satisfied himself as to the nature of the complaint, galloped home to prepare some preliminary medicine, and I remained some time afterwards with the Ameer, at his earnest request, who became quite a changed person, from the depth of despondency, in the conviction that he could not live beyond a few hours, or days at the utmost—to cheerful hope, on my imparting the Doctor's opinion, that his case was not hopeless, if his Highness would implicitly follow his advice in all things, which he declared his determination to do, but begged of me to return with Doctor Owen in the evening, to see that the gentleman was fully informed of his case from first to last.

In the evening I returned accordingly to the palace, accompanied by Mr. Whitelock and Doctor Owen. We were met a few hundred yards from the palace by Meers Shadad and Hoossein Ali, and conducted to the Ameer, whom we found very cheerful and happy, from the impression that the medicine which Doctor Owen had sent in the morning, had already benefited him. He conversed cheerfully with Mr. Whitelock and myself, especially expressing interest in our successes in China, Kelat retaken, and trust that all enemies of the British would ever be discomfited, hinting that the late Nao Nehal Sing was removed by Providence, &c., &c., with much apparent sincerity.

In the course of the interview, Meer Hoossein Ali, the Ameer's younger son, came from the inner apartments and whispered in his father's ear, who smiled, and informed me that the Khanum (the mother of his sons) sent to say she hailed me as her brother with much gratification, to which I made a suitable acknowledgment. On inquiry afterwards I learnt that this is considered an extraordinary proof of friendship, such as never heretofore displayed except to the nearest relations.

Doctor Owen having completed his inquiry among the invalid's attendants, then explained the regimen he must submit to, to afford any chance of recovery, which the Ameer replied that he was determined to attend to scrupulously. After about an hour's stay we took leave, and visited Meers Meer Mahomed and Sobdar Khan at their private residences, passing a few minutes with each in the usual interchange of friendly inquiries.

Next day two trays of sweetmeats and presents were sent to me by the Khanum of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, in testification of our re-

cently pledged friendship, which, with due acknowledgments, I received; and I trust the Governor-General will approve of my having done so, and permit me to return an equal value the articles now received being carried to the account of Government.

The Khanum being the only wife of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, and mother to both Meers Shadad and Hoossein Ali, any extraordinary profession of friendship thus evinced, cannot be misconstrued as displaying a leaning to either party, should dissensions arise between the sons, which is likely, the elder being dissatisfied with the will of his father, which, it is said, makes equal division between them; and I am informed that Meer Sobdar Khan and Meer Mahomed Khan are pledged to support Meer Shadad, and Meer Nusseer Khan and Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee, are guardians of Meer Hoossein.

In the last paragraph of my dispatch to your address, dated 5th March last, I solicited instructions in the event of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan seeking our guarantee to the succession of his younger son, to which I received no reply. As it is, a fair division of the estate appears to have been made; and the general protection merely of the British Government, sought by the dying Ameer for his brother and youngest son, has I consider been pledged by the act of uniting their hands in mine, which, under the circumstances, could not have been refused, and is understood, I presume, to be extended equally to every member of the families of the four Ameers in alliance with, and under protection of, the British Government, without by any means being understood by those so consigned to me as committing me to their particular party; and, should family contests arise, it will, I presume, be my province to keep aloof; but, should my interference be sought, to advise the parties to submit the case to arbitration, declaring at the same time, that neither party can be permitted to have recourse to hostilities, which would cause disturbances in the country, and injury to both Governments; and, moreover, that no third party will be permitted to take advantage of the occasion, to despoil either of the disputants of any portion of the estate which is guaranteed by the British Government to Meer Noor Mahomed and his heirs, however it may be divided between the latter.

The latter clause is suggested to check the other Ameers from fanning the dispute with a view to profiting thereby; but I trust there will be no occasion to interpose our authority, and, at any rate, not before I receive his Lordship's commands for my guidance under such a contingency, which I beg leave most respectfully to solicit.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 270.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, December* 6, 1840.

IT is with feelings of sincere sorrow I have now to announce the demise of his Highness Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, who expired at 4 A.M. yesterday; an event which my letter of the 3rd instant, and previous communications will have led the Governor-General of India to expect for some time past.

Dr. Owen, who latterly resided entirely in the palace, was unremitting in his attendance on the dying chief during the few last days of his existence, and, although the case was beyond all human skill, that gentleman has the satisfaction to know that the sufferings of the Ameer were greatly alleviated by his prescriptions, which the relations of the deceased are very sensible of, and grateful for.

The remains of his Highness were carried to the grave at *10* A.M, and buried within the Mausoleum of his father, the late Moorad Ali, attended by a large concourse of chieftains and followers, besides the immediate relations of the deceased, and sons of Meer Sobdar Khan, and by Lieutenant Whitelock and myself in mourning costume, a mark of respect to the memory of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, which my public duty, as well as personal friendship for the departed chief, induced me to pay, an attention which appeared to be deeply appreciated by all, and especially by the brother and sons of the deceased, who embraced me affectionately before the assembled multitude, and placed us with themselves and Meer Sobdar's sons during the mournful ceremony.

In the evening, I returned to the palace accompanied by Dr. Owen and Mr. Whitelock, to condole with the late chief's family, as customary in this country, every male relative of which, together with the other Ameers and their sons, we found sitting on the ground, clothed in humble garb, and absorbed in grief and mournful meditation, while their friends and followers flocked around to tender their condolence; we were warmly greeted by the assembly, and our appearance caused a fresh burst of tears from Meer Nusseer Khan (the brother), and Meer Shadad and Hoossein Ali (the sons of Meer Noor Mahomed), and they again embraced and hailed me as their beloved brother. On taking leave, after sitting with them about half-an-hour, during which the merits of the deceased Ameer were the chief subjects of conversation, besides expressions of gratitude for the attentions of Dr. Owen, all the Ameers rose, although contrary to custom on that particular occasion, and entreated by me not to do so, and on bidding good bye, thanked us most warmly for the friendly sympathy with their distress we had evinced.

I have every reason to lament the loss of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, and do so most sincerely, both on public and private grounds; whatever that chief's secret feelings towards the British may have been, certainly his acts latterly were all most friendly, and I cannot but place faith in almost the last words the dying chief uttered, solemnly protesting the sincerity of his friendship for the British Government, not only because, being then perfectly aware that he had but few hours to live, and seeking nothing, he could have had no motive for deception, but also, because I had myself always found his Highness most ready to forward our interests, and least ready to welcome reports prejudicial to us, which, during late exciting times, were so industriously propagated, and greedily devoured by those more inimical to us; in fact I am satisfied that Meer Noor Mahomed Khan at last perceived that it was wiser to cultivate our friendship, than hopelessly to intrigue against our power; and he had sense enough on more than one occasion, when the signs of the times encouraged others to hope our discomfiture, to prognosticate that temporary reverses or the machinations of the factious, would but cause the firmer rivetting of our power; and I have lately ascertained that, on the occasion of Meer Nusseer Khan's deputing agents to Mecca, Meer Noor Mahomed positively forbade making use of the opportunity to communicate with the Shah of Persia, and strongly expressed his sense of the folly of continuing their former underhand practices, and determination not to countenance them in future.

Of the late Ameer's personal feelings towards myself, I had latterly received many affecting proofs, especially during the last three days of his existence when I daily visited his Highness, on finding that my doing so gave him real gratification. On the 4th instant, the morning before his death, the Ameer evidently feeling that we could not meet again, embraced me most fervently, and spoke distinctly to the following purport, in the presence of Dr. Owen and the other Ameers: "You are to me as my brother Nusseer Khan, and the grief of this sickness is equally felt by you and Nusseer Khan; from the days of Adam no one has known so great truth and friendship as I have found in you." I replied, "Your Highness has proved your friendship to my Government and myself by your daily acts. You have considered me a brother, and as a brother I feel for your Highness, and night and day I grieve for your sickness;" to which he added, "My friendship for the British is known to God. My conscience is clear before God." The Ameer still retained me in his feeble embrace for a few moments, and, after taking some medicine from my hand, again embraced me as if with the conviction that we could not meet again.

In my meetings with the dying chief since that reported on the 26th ultimo, no allusion was made to his sons, or any repetition of the distinction between them, such as displayed on that occasion; both were invariably in attendance in the sick chamber; neither has the nature of the late Ameer's will yet become public; but, I am given to understand that the estates are equally divided between the sons, and that all treasures and jewels have been made over to their mother, with a special proviso for the annual payment of the British tribute therefrom, an arrangement which Meer Shadad is supposed to be highly dissatisfied with.

A copy of this dispatch will be transmitted for the information of the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 271.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, . *Hyderabad, December* 8, 1840.

I HAVE now the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, my correspondence with, and relating to, the Ameer of Meerpore, allusion to which is frequently made in my late diaries, and to detail my proceedings, which have led to the satisiactory result of the voluntary renunciation, by that chief, of tolls on the Indus, on the same footing as the Ameers of Hyderabad, in exemption* from the stipulations by which the latter are bound, being a difficulty which I was called on to remove by the 6th paragraph of Mr. Torrens' letter dated 22nd of June last.

The aggression complained of by General Brooks, gave me grounds for demanding this exemption, but as I was sure the Meerpore Chief at heart desires the friendship of the British Government, and had every reason to believe that the offence alluded to was the act of a brother of the chief, who, by throwing obstacles in our way, hoped to induce me to correspond with him direct, and thus admit his independence of his brother and chief, which I purposely avoided, as I consider that a further subdivision of authority it is most desirable to prevent, in a country where there already are so many rulers, that the most vigilant exertions of our interference as the paramount power is required to prevent anarchy, and therefore, I left an opening to the Ameer to disavow the act by the tone of my letters.

As, however, a fortnight elapsed without any notice being taken of my letters, I directed a wing of the regiment of cavalry which was passing through the country, to halt in the neighbourhood of Meerpore, instructing the officer to give out that he was merely awaiting the junction of the Guzerat forces (of which that was the leading division), without myself holding out any open threat, which might have driven the chief to make the same show of opposition which was so uselessly displayed by the Ameers of Hyderabad last year, and which I was convinced was unnecessary; but I deputed Nao Mull Seth to Meerpore, on the pretext solely of making preparations for the supply of the passing troops, with the view, however, also of explaining to the chief the extreme folly of his proceedings in thus delaying to apologize for a positive insult to the British Government, and in not seizing, at the same time, the opportunity of shewing his good will towards the British, by relinquishing, of his own free will, the right of levying any tolls on the Indus; for that, by acting otherwise, not only was he shutting the door to our friendship, but must inevitably bring about his own ruin, as the act of aggression, and insult to an officer of high rank, could never be overlooked; that although he, Nao Mull, was not aware why the leading division of the forces coming from Guzerat was now halted, he had little doubt that it would not be allowed to proceed, until ample satisfaction had been exacted, and that of course the expense of the troops thus detained would be entailed on the chief who caused the delay.

Nao Mull was also instructed to disavow any authority from me to communicate on such a subject, and accordingly was provided with no letters to the chief: in the conviction, however, that my object would immediately be effected, the Soucar had a sealed letter from me to the officer commanding the troops, directing the latter to continue their march, which he was to forward the moment the Meerpore Chief complied with my demand. The able manner in which the Seth fulfilled his commission is detailed in the accompaniment, the chief's letter being an ample apology for the offence, and pledge against repetition; but, although complying with all I had a title to demand, which enabled me to move on the troops, after only two days' delay to the leading detachment, and none whatever to any of those following, it evaded the general question, which I still kept open by leaving the chief's reply unnoticed, on the plea that I awaited the arrival of the offender, whom Shere Mahomed had, of his own accord, proposed to send to me for punishment, although well aware that, owing to the sanctity of the man, a Syud, the chief would not fulfil his promise, which was merely made in the expectation that I would not exact its fulfilment; and, accordingly,

* Sic in orig.

further instructions were sent to Nao Mull, his reply to which I received on the 5th instant, and the letter from the chief alluded to therein, through Meer Sobdar Khan, next day, which latter is everything that could be desired, as binding the Meerpore Chief to the same terms as those fixed by treaty with the other Ameers.

I may here observe, that I have no doubt Meer Shere Mahomed will now renew his solicitations for a treaty, on the principle of contributing towards the expense of our troops, proportionally to his means, with reference to that of the other Ameers, and in the terms formerly suggested by the native agent at my instigation (as reported in my letter to your address dated 5th of May last), but which advice was not acted up to at that time by the Ameer, I have now every reason to believe, because the native agent underhandedly, and for his own advantage, held out hopes of ultimately obtaining the treaty, on the same terms, for Meer Shere Mahomed, as he had led Meer Sobdar Khan to believe he had been the means of effecting for him: having now, however, lost all hope of that person's return to power, and, consequently of obtaining his object by corrupt means, the Ameer is, I understand, about to renew his application, overtures having lately been made to me, through the Minister of Meer Sobdar Khan, but which I received with perfect indifference, informing him that no other terms than what had been previously intimated through the native agent would I ever listen to.

I take this opportunity of calling to recollection my letter to your address dated 4th June last, recommending a small pension and dress of honor to be conferred upon Nao Mull Seth for former services, to which no reply has yet been received; since when I have derived much assistance from that devoted friend of the British Government, on the occasion of the present negotiation with Meer Shere Mahomed, as shewn in the accompanying correspondence, in assisting the troops in passing through the country, and also in bringing to light the peculations of Moonshee Jeth Anund, whereby he has not only brought upon himself the enmity of that individual, but also of all the most powerful soucars of this city who were concerned in Moonshee Jeth Anund's frauds.

I remain of the same opinion as there expressed, of the impolicy of employing that person, or any other native of Sinde extensively connected in the country, in any responsible permanent situation, but I consider, that he highly deserves distinction for his many services to the British Government, and that it is politic to show that we appreciate and reward such services; I beg leave, therefore, most respectfully, to repeat my former recommendation of this individual to the favourable consideration of his Lordship the Governor-General in Council. A copy of this letter will be forwarded to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 272.

Intelligence from Lower Sinde, December 11, 1840.

IN the evening, proceeded to the Durbar, accompanied by Lieutenants Leckie and Whitelock, to attend the ceremony of taking up the carpet, betokening leaving off mourning, which it is customary for all friends of the deceased to be present at. The ceremony was over when we arrived, as we had mistaken the hour, which could not be put off, but we were received most kindly by the assembly which still continued, and on being requested by Meer Nusseer Khan no longer to wear the emblems of mourning, I fervently expressed my hope that it might be many, many years before I should again have to don them for any similar distressing event in their Highnesses' families; we were then invited to be present on the 13th instant, at the installation of the sons of the late chief. In the evening I received a message from Meer Nusseer Khan, expressing the wish of his Highness publicly to mark our friendship by receiving from me an English hat on the occasion of investiture of his nephew; which I answered by saying, that I should be sorry to give such an opening to foolish people, to represent that the English Sirkar was introducing foreign customs: of course the Ameer's object was to impress on the country, that he had been acknowledged by the British as head of the Government in the place of Noor Mahomed Khan,

who, notwithstanding the equality with which we treated all the Ameers, was always considered as the head of the Government by the other Ameers and the people, and exercised his authority as such in all general matters.

December 12*th*. The Agency Moonshee proceeded to the fort to inquire after the health of all the Ameers. He first saw Meer Nusseer Khan, to whom he explained, that the reason of my not having arrived at the Durbar in time to be present at the ceremony of taking up the carpet, was owing to the Moonshee Chotram having mistaken the hour in his message to me. He then joined Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan and all the members of his family; Meer Hoossein Ali sent a message to say, that his father had looked upon me in the light of a brother, and that he should consider me his uncle. Meer Shadad Khan said, that he had not sent any messages, owing to his grief, but that, until he appointed a person to carry messages, I was not to believe any thing that might be told me as if from himself. The Moonshee afterwards saw Meer Sobdar Khan, who dwelt upon the uncertainty of life, and said that his turn might next arrive. In the evening the Moonshee was sent to seek a private conference with Meer Mahomed Nusseer Khan, from whom I had during the day received several messages, both by Moonshee Chotram and Moonshee Ahmed Khan, repeating the former request to be presented with an English hat, or, if that was not agreeable, with a native head dress, either publicly at the installation of his nephews, or to be sent privately, as a pledge of brotherhood. I desired the Moonshee to explain, that I did not wish to introduce any English customs further than such as would prove a source of benefit to all, and that the presenting a hat might be misinterpreted by the other Ameers and the chieftains of the country, as exalting him above all the Ameers, which could not be permitted, for all were on an equality; but that I would, at the time of presenting his nephews with turbans and waistbands, give him a dhoshalla, which could not be looked upon as conferring a mark of superiority over the others. His Highness replied, that he wished me to give the cap merely as a pledge of brotherhood, which he would not wear, but that the circumstance of this mark of my friendship might be known to all, though at the same time, if I considered that it would be looked upon in any other light, not having been asked by either Meer Sobdar Khan or Meer Meer Mahomed Khan to fill the situation of his brother as the head of the Government, he would not desire any thing to be given to himself.

December 13*th*. In the morning, accompanied as before, attended the Durbar, which was so densely crowded, that Meer Sobdar Khan, who had just preceded us, was obliged to turn back (being subject to fits in such situations), leaving his sons to represent him. The Ameers, thinking we might be incommoded, sent Zynoolabdeen Shah to meet and conduct us to another Durbar room, where we were told we should be joined by their Highnesses immediately Meer Mahomed, the eldest son of the late Ameer, had been invested by the state priest, which, of course, precedes the gifts of the brotherhood, as acknowledgments of succession. After waiting about ten minutes, Meers Meer Mahomed and Nusseer Khan, with Meers Shadad and Hoossein Ali, and the sons of Nusseer Khan, adjourned to the hall where we were seated, attended by a mass of people who filled the hall almost to suffocation, in the midst of which we were seated, their Highnesses on the same charpar, and the gentlemen on chairs close in front. I then presented turbans, first to Meer Shadad, next to Meer Hoossein Ali, afterwards a loongee to each, informing the assembly, that this was in acknowledgment by the British Government of the accession of each to the estate willed to them by their father, in conformity with the Treaty, which confirmed to their Highnesses and their heirs their estates for ever. I then placed the late chief's sword (which was put into my hand for the purpose) round the waist of Meer Shadad, in token of his seniority, and after a few expressions of personal friendship for their Highnesses, we took our leave, accompanied to the door and there embraced by all the Ameers.

Note.—The motives for my proceedings on this occasion will be explained in a separate dispatch on the occasion of handing up a copy of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan's will for the information of his Lordship.

J. OUTRAM.

P. S.—I omitted to mention that about a fortnight ago or three weeks, one of Dost Mahomed's cossids (who must have left Cabool long before that chief's surrender) brought letters for Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Shere Mahomed of

Meerpore, of which information was sent me by the former, saying that he had refused to receive the letter, and asking if he should seize the messenger and send me the letters, to which I replied, neither the messenger or letters were worthy of notice. The cossid then went on to Meerpore, the chief of which received the letter, but would neither give an answer or reward the bearer, who has now returned home, and wanted to make a merit of delivering the letter addressed to Meer Nusseer Khan, being unaware of what had previously passed between his Highness and myself regarding it. I refused the letter, and told the man to go about his business.

No. 273.

The Political Agent in ~~Lower~~ Upper Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, December* 19, 1840.

FUTTEH MAHOMED GHOREE, the Minister of Meer Roostum Khan, has ever been opposed to the alliance of his master with our Government. Various circumstances led me to this conclusion before I quitted Sinde in February last. On my return, the opinion which I had previously formed was corroborated by what had passed during my absence, and I visited Meer Roostum at Khyrpore, chiefly with the view of discussing the subject with him. He said that he had many causes of complaint against his minister, but that the latter had been his servant (originally a slave), from boyhood, and begged me to speak to him privately. I accordingly did so, and he expressed his determination to avoid the councils of various men, who, he said, had misled him, and chiefly Meer Roostum's barber. He forgot his promises, however, and on two subsequent occasions, I remonstrated with his Highness personally as to the conduct of his Minister. He expressed himself fully satisfied of the latter's bad conduct, not only in throwing difficulties in the way of arrangements necessary with reference to the operations of our Government, but in regard to his own domestic interests, the whole of his children being at feud, in consequence of Futteh Mahomed's intrigues. I regret, however, that Meer Roostum's natural facility of temper, disinclination to enter into the details of business, and long continued habit of employing the individual in question, have hitherto prevented him from taking steps to punish the misconduct, and check the intrigues of his Minister.

No. 274.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to Captain Kennedy.

Sir, *December* 23, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to inform you, that your services having been placed at my disposal by Major-General Brooks, pending the orders of Government, I am anxious that you should proceed, without loss of time, to Khyrpore, and reside at the court of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, to whom I have this day personally introduced you.

2. The object of your deputation is as follows:—Last year Meer Roostum Khan fell into a bad state of health; and from that time forward, the life of so old a man became precarious. His Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who has been for many years his sole adviser, became, from the first, alarmed, lest, on the demise of his patron, his influence, which has for so long been paramount in Upper Sinde, should be weakened or totally overthrown. He has, therefore, for many months past, been carrying on intrigues, with a view of establishing such influence with the probable successor of Meer Roostum as may admit of his continuing to exercise that authority which he is naturally unwilling to resign. The consequence has been, that numerous and serious quarrels have arisen in the family of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, whose eldest son Meer Mahomed Hussein, along with his brothers, Meer Ali Akbar and Meer Moorad Hyder, have, in consequence, been obliged to retire in disgrace to the estates granted them by their father. It has been the care of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree to foment not only the disputes which have arisen among the children of

his master, but those of longer standing, which existed between Ali Moorad and Nusseer Khans, the other branches of the Khyrpore family. These quarrels might, and, in all probability, would eventually, materially disturb the tranquillity of the country; and the only manner in which I can endeavour to prevent them, is by diminishing, as far as possible, the influence of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree.

I some time ago, spoke seriously to his Highness Meer Roostum on this subject, and pointed out to him the injurious consequences which the dissensions in question might entail. I also impressed upon him that in numerous instances, the Minister had acted at variance with orders which he received from his Highness in my own presence. He concurred with me in blaming the conduct of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree; and stated to me, that many communications I had forwarded to him were never placed before him; and while he expressed unwillingness to disgrace so old a servant as the Minister, requested me to appoint an officer to reside at his Court, as the best mode of preventing any letter, of either party, from being suppressed, and of conducting business in a satisfactory manner.

3. In nominating you to the duty, I am desirous that you should be the sole medium of communication between his Highness Meer Roostum and myself; and that, in conveying to him any communication from me, you should do so personally, and ascertain from his Highness himself his sentiments on any subject under discussion. By following the course indicated, we shall not only be assured that no undue influence is exercised by Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, in questions arising between the British Government and Meer Roostum Khan, but the power of the former to excite animosity amongst the various branches of the Khyrpore family will be greatly diminished, by the evidence afforded that he is prevented, as far as possible, from having a voice in the intercourse which passes between his master and our Government.

4. The party attached to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree consists of Meer Roostum's barber, by name Suliman, who exercises a great influence over his master; together with Mahubut Khan Muree, and Kumal Khan, and Durya Khan Julbanee. I am anxious that you should watch the proceedings of those individuals, as well as of the Minister, and keep me regularly acquainted with them, stating particularly what influence they continue to exercise in Meer Roostum's councils.

5. It is desirable that you should act, as far as possible, as an officer solely connected with his Highness Meer Roostum, who is head of the Khyrpore family; but, at the same time, it is proper, that you should receive with the utmost courtesy all letters from Ali Moorad and Nusseer Khan, and transmit them to me. With reference, however, to Meer Roostum Khan's own family, you should not hold direct intercourse with his sons, unless at his own request.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

No. 275.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, December* 28, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches communicating the particulars of the last illness and death of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

2. In reply, I have the instructions of the Governor-General in Council to express to you the full approval of your proceedings on this melancholy occasion, and the sincere regret of the British Government at the loss of a chieftain whose good sense had led him to appreciate the value of his alliance with us, and whose example and influence appear to have been, for some time past, exerted to maintain that alliance in truth and sincerity.

3. You will be pleased to communicate to the family of the deceased chieftain the sincere condolence of the Governor-General in Council, on the calamity which they have to deplore; and his Lordship trusts in the respect and affection of the sons and brothers of Noor Mahomed Khan to his memory, for

a steady adherence to the principles which he professed, of attachment to the Supreme Government of India, and for a continuance of those amicable relations among themselves, by which alone the internal tranquillity of their country can be preserved.

4. Your influence will be properly employed in preventing any dissension which may be likely to arise between the sons of Noor Mahomed Khan, on account of the disposition which he has made of his family estate and personal property. As there appears to be nothing in the division which he has willed, that is not perfectly consonant with the previous customs of the Ameer's family, it may be hoped that it will not require much argument from you to induce all parties to conform amicably to the expressed wishes of the late chieftain.

5. It is only in the event of Noor Mahomed Khan's will being disputed by either of the brothers, with such violence as might lead to a contest, in which their uncles might be led to participate, that you will be called upon to interfere authoritatively, and, after warning all parties of the obligations which they lie under by treaty to refer their differences to the decision of the British Government, to call upon the disputants to abstain from all acts of hostility or aggression, and refer their quarrel to you for the orders of the Governor-General in Council.

6. It is the intention of his Lordship to address a letter of condolence to the family of the late Ameer, which will be forwarded to you in a day or two; and that occasion will be taken to allude to the valuable assistance rendered by him in facilitating the recent passage of British troops through Lower Sinde.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK

No. 276.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Ameers of Sinde.

Hyderabad, January 1, 1841.

THE great losses sustained by the British Government from frauds in the purchase of grain, buying and selling hoondees and sale of bullion; likewise the losses of the Ameers on grain, caused by Jeth Anund, have been fully proved against that individual, for which he has been discharged from the service of the British Government, from the 1st of December last, and it has recommended that he be confined until he makes good the losses of both Governments. In the course of these inquiries, it has become known that the same person has received bribes, having in his possession papers addressed by the Ameers of Sinde, or in their names, to chiefs of other States, which he clandestinely seized, and retained as a check to intimidate your Highnesses. This I acquaint you with.

At the same time, the Sinde Sirkar, not placing confidence in the British Government, had recourse to these transactions, to conceal which, your Highnesses have since suffered great pecuniary losses. If you had relied on the honorable and upright intentions of the British Government, which experience has now fully convinced your Highnesses of, the circumstances above alluded to would not have occurred. Relying in the confidence you now have in the British Government, and in consequence of the trust I place in you, I now inform you that the past will never be alluded to, but forgotten; and what I have now written, on being made known to the Governor-General of India, will, I am well assured, be approved by his Lordship, who has only your welfare at heart. I communicate all this that you may no longer have money extorted from you, from attempting to conceal the past; rest assured that no notice will be taken of what has heretofore passed, whether disclosed or concealed; but if such proceedings are ever hereafter resorted to, they must become known, and the British Government cannot again overlook them.

I take this opportunity of bringing to the knowledge of your Highnesses, that certain subjects of the Sinde Government have taken upon themselves to forge my seal, and write letters to chiefs of Sinde in my name; on the strength of these letters, their authors have had jagheers, &c., bestowed upon them.

An original letter of this nature I now send for your Highness's perusal that you may make inquiries as to these delinquents of both Governments.

It behoves the Sinde Government to ascertain the authors and their accomplices, and that they be made known to me, after which to be dealt with as may be decided upon.

No. 277.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, January 7,* 1841.

WITH reference to the proceedings reported in the occurrences of my diary on the 13th ultimo, I beg now to submit, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, my reasons for taking so decided a step, without previous instructions, as publicly and formally to guarantee the respective shares of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan's possessions willed to his sons, Meer Shadad Khan and Meer Hoossein Ali Khan, understood by the act of delivering a turban to each, this report having been delayed until I could furnish authenticated copies of the will, (the exact nature of which, however, I was from the first informed of,) which from motives of delicacy I had not sooner pressed for the public production of, and which was only yesterday formally admitted, and solemnly agreed to, by the parties concerned before me, in the presence of Meers Meer Mahomed and Nusseer Khans and sons, and Nawab Ahmed Khan, and in sight of the assembled Durbar standing within a few paces.

2. The proceedings on this occasion are detailed in the accompanying extract, and I need only here remark, that so public a display of Meer Shadad's recognition of his father's will, was not at my instigation, however much I may have preferred it, I having from feelings of delicacy suggested merely a private meeting of the family for the purpose, my plea for which was Meer Shadad's attempt, alluded to in my diary of the 31st ultimo, to impose upon me an incorrect version of the will, the object of which will be observed by comparing that document with the will itself, the sentence written in the original will in the late Ameer's own hand-writing, "to be selected by Meer Shadad," as relating to the shikargahs alone, being transposed to the end of his copy of the will, as if relating to the whole property, lands, and effects, and altered to "all to be divided agreeably to the wish of Meer Shadad Khan," and because of its discrepancy with the paper* given by Meer Nusseer Khan on the 27th ultimo, as the general purport of the late Ameer's will, saying, "the will itself, then being with the widow, would hereafter be sent," which, I afterwards intimated to his Highness, I would prefer seeing in presence of the parties concerned.

3. Notwithstanding Meer Shadad's assertion at the interview on the 5th instant, that, had he known the real nature of his father's will, he would not have signed his agreement to it, pretending that his grief at the time clouded his understanding, the real fact is, that he well knew the penalty of his then refusing would have been disinheritance by his father; and, notwithstanding his insinuation that an equal division is not fair, he is aware that he might have been disinherited according to the pleasure of his father and customs of his people; and, I really believe, that Meer Shadad would have been disinherited by the late Ameer, (the probability of which event I reported in March last,) had it not previously been gleaned indirectly from me, that the British Government would never support an unjust will or anything contrary to precedent in the family. The fact is, that Meer Shadad, from the feelings his father is known to have entertained towards him, is considered to be most fortunate in obtaining the best half of his father's territory, *i.e.* first choice, and three-fifths of his wealth after the widow's demise; and excepting as a tool wherewith to work ruin to his family, the other Ameers never would, if ever, have encouraged his pretensions, and then only secretly, as they knew them to be unfounded.

4. My motives for at once recognizing the succession of the sons of the late

* Which also is incorrect, omitting all mention of the division of the wealth of the testator bequeathed to the widow, after her demise, *i.e.*, three-fifths to Meer Shadad, two-fifths to Meer Hoossein Ali.

Ameer, understood by the ceremony reported on the 13th ultimo, without awaiting reference to his Lordship, were, that had I hesitated to give such guarantee on this particular occasion, when all the chieftains of the country were assembled to pledge their allegiance to the successors of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, a doubt as to our readiness to act up to the spirit of the treaty, which guarantees the respective possessions of each Ameer to them and their heirs for ever, together with suspicions of our intentions, now that the only chief supposed capable of ruling the country was removed, would naturally have arisen among a people not yet quite assured of our good faith, which there could be no occasion for exciting, by delaying to acknowledge the late Ameer's disposal of his property, according to the precedent in the family, and the customs of the nation, which can, I presume, admit of no dispute.

5. The right of each son to his share of his father's possessions was admitted by my declaration before the assembly, that the late Ameer's will was guaranteed by the British Government; and while the seniority of the elder was sufficiently acknowledged by my girding on his father's sword, which admitted of no other interpretation, their equality in other respects, in our eyes, was shewn by giving a head-dress to each at the same time, shewing that I recognized no other signification in that emblem, which latter arrangement I had recourse to, because, had I placed the turban on Meer Shadad (which at any rate I could not avoid with propriety) alone, it would have been represented as an acknowledgment of his supremacy over the other Ameers, which his father had never relinquished his claim to, and had always been tacitly admitted by them, notwithstanding the guarantee of the British Government to their individual equality, and which has again been virtually acquiesced in, and would have been claimed by Meer Shadad, from the circumstance of his public investure by the chief Moollah with that emblem of sovereignty on the occasion referred to.

6. Notwithstanding the apparent indifference to that circumstance displayed by the other Ameers, they were really much pleased with the obvious determination on our part rigidly to fulfil our pledges, and not to admit of any such distinction, evinced, not only by the above-mentioned public declaration and proceedings, but also by, what particularly pleased Meer Sobdar Khan and Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, my refusal of a "hak" or other headdress to Meer Nusseer Khan, the object of his Highness' seeking, which was, of course, to impress the people with the supposition, that the British Government transferred to him the superior authority hitherto maintained by his late brother.

So prompt and decided a declaration of the determination of the British Government to support the late Ameer's will, was the more necessary, because Meer Shadad would otherwise have become the willing tool of the other Ameers, who at heart wish the downfall of Moorad Ali's family, by turning its members against each other in the hope of sharing in its spoil, and raising their own branches on its ruins. Intrigues to that end were already on foot, and the instruments for carrying it into effect were at hand, in the multitude of Belooch Chieftains and followers then assembled, who are always glad to aid in dissensions among their superiors, which give them employment and chance of plunder: when, however, it was seen, that no third party would be permitted to prey upon the late Ameer's property, in return for assistance to either party, which our guarantee sufficiently indicated, all motives for engaging in so profitless a struggle were removed, and the door is now shut to such endeavours by the solemn recognition of the father's will, by both sons, any attempt to infringe which by either hereafter, would disgrace him in the eyes of every one, and would render our interference in such case as popular as just.

8. However disappointed mischievous persons may have been in being deprived of so promising a field for spoil as a disputed succession would have afforded, the other Ameers are now well pleased to find that their own possessions are really secured to their children, and in the confidence that their wishes will be equally respected on similar occasions, they see that our interference has been timely exerted only to prevent dissensions, which, if allowed to come to a head, must have called for the intervention of our power, which, had we been insincere in our professions, we should have been glad of the excuse to employ for our own ends. They are convinced of the reluctance with which we have interposed—only in so far as absolutely necessary to secure the provisions of the Treaty, and faithfully to fulfil our pledges—and they

appreciate the delicacy with which we have avoided as much as possible the appearance of meddling in their affairs.

9. I trust my proceedings throughout this delicate, and to me, in the absence of specific instructions, somewhat difficult crisis, may meet his Lordship's approval; and, in that case, I beg respectfully to suggest that separate letters may be addressed in the name of the Governor-General of India to Meer Shadad Khan, and to Meer Hoossein Ali Khan, the sons of the late Ameer, condoling with their Highnesses on their late loss, and assuring them, that the friendship pledged to their father, and guarantee of his possessions is continued to them; and another of condolence to Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan on the loss of his brother, and conveying to him as guardian of the young Ameers, his Lordship's confirmation of my guarantee of their father's will.

10. A copy of this dispatch will be forwarded to the Government of Bombay.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 278.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Shikarpore, January* 10, 1841.

WITH reference to Mr. Torrens' letter dated the 27th of July last, I have the honor to report for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General of India in Council, that shortly after my return to Sukkur, I addressed his Highness Nusseer Khan requesting him to make arrangements with his brothers for liquidating the claim for seven lacs of rupees in favour of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which remained outstanding against Meer Moobaruck Khan at the time of his death. After some correspondence, copies and translations of which are herewith transmitted, I discussed the subject with Meer Roostum Khan on the 23rd of December last. He stated, that Sir Alexander Burnes had promised Meer Moobaruck, and given him a written document, which he shewed me in original to the same effect, that no demand should be made on him. As the paper in question may possibly not have been laid before the Government, I consented at the request of his Highness, to submit it in the first instance along with any letter, which he might think proper to address to me on the subject, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General of India in Council, in order that there might be no risk of in any manner compromising Sir Alexander Burnes; the documents appended, are translations of Meer Roostum's letter on the subject and its inclosure.

2. In the event of his Lordship in Council deciding that the last-mentioned document shall be set aside, and of Meer Moobaruck's sons refusing to pay the amount demanded, I solicit instructions as to whether the demand shall be enforced by a threat of taking possession, and if necessary, by doing so, of lands held by Meer Nusseer Khan and his brothers.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

No. 279.

Meer Roostum Khan to the Political Agent.—(Received December 25, 1840.)

SINCE it is evident as the sun, that at the time of the claim by the British Government on their Highnesses the Meers of Hyderabad, at that period, they (the Hyderabad Ameers) also divided the amount with the deceased Meer Moobaruck Khan; this slave of the Almighty communicated

on this subject, with the exalted Burnes Sahib; that gentleman of exalted rank, for the satisfaction of this friend, granted and wrote an agreement, absolving the said Meer Moobaruck from any share of the money to be paid: this document in original is in existence, and in my possession; during the life of the Meer above-mentioned, the exalted Sir A. Burnes, according to his own Treaty, did not make any claim. ' Now the Meer is dead, and to claim and demand from his descendants, who are my children, where will it find a place in the world of true friendship (sincerity); further, that friend is arbitrator of all affairs. At the time of the arrival of Pottinger Sahib, there was no mention of this matter, and the deceased Meer also knew not what amount had been assigned to him. Now that it is claimed from his descendants, they cannot admit it; there is a hope, that for the satisfaction of this slave of the Almighty, who is the head of his house, that friend will not admit this affair to be discussed, so that the favor of the British Government and that friend may be thereby increased. This matter will be the cause of increased dignity from the Governor-General of India.

(*Seal of Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor.*)

No. 280.

Copy of an Agreement under the seal of Sir Alexander Burnes, dated the 26th of December, 1838, agreeing with the 18th of the month Shawal, year 1254 of the Hejira.

TO this extent: since the foundations of friendship and good understanding between the Honorable East India Company and the Government of Khyrpore, in the country of Sinde, according to ancient treaties, are firm and fixed, at this time at the solicitation of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor, for the satisfaction of his Highness Meer Moobaruck Khan Talpoor, a few words have been written as follows, in the shape of a treaty, through the medium of Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Burnes for the Government for the Company and their affairs in Hindoostan. Thus, the Company promises that it will never take tax or tribute from the possessions of Meer Moobaruck Khan situated in Sinde, or interfere in his affairs or possessions. The British Government promises that in the same way that friendship is established between it and his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, according to existing treaties, so shall it be between the British Government and Meer Moobaruck Khan and his descendants. Dated the 26th of December, 1838.

No. 281.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *January* 11, 1841.

WITH reference to the occurrences noted in my diary for the past week, I beg to submit the following explanation for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, of my reasons for giving assurances to the Ameers, that all previous treasonable correspondence by their Highnesses is forgotten, and, with regard to the forgery alluded to, translations of my memorandum, and of the forged letter, being annexed.

2. The ostensible reasons for the first measure are sufficiently shewn in the memorandum addressed to the Durbar, but the real object, in addition thereto, was to give the Ameers a fair opportunity of freeing themselves from the shackles the existence of such documents imposed, which they supposed would, at any time, when produced, compromise them with the British Government, and must, of itself, had they no other incentive to intrigue, and however well disposed to good faith, induce them to look anxiously for foreign support against a Power with which they thought themselves in jeopardy.

3. His Lordship's object being, I am well aware, to prevent future intrigues rather than to punish for the past, which may be accounted for, in a great measure, by the Ameers' ignorance and mistrust of our intentions, I confidently trust that my proceedings, in this case, will meet the confirmation I have assured to their Highnesses.

4. With regard to the forged seal and letter passed thereby upon Shah Mahomed, the brother of Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, which obtained for the writer a grant of land, and other perquisites, I need only now remark, that it is undoubtedly the act of Syud Soliman Shah, and can, by me, be proved to be so, although I prefer throwing the duty of detection and exposure on the Government of which he is a servant. It will then rest with his Lordship to decide what punishment shall be required, and I beg to suggest the following; *i. e.* that the person who applied the forgery to his own benefit be compelled to produce the original seal, and confined till ample compensation has been made to the party defrauded thereby, and that every member of the late Syud Ismael Shah's family, all of whom may be fairly presumed to have been privy to this transaction—for all their families reside together,—and the means by which one of its members acquired landed property, must have been known to, and connived at by all, be compelled to sign a compact to the effect that any single member of this family hereafter detected in intrigues calculated to embroil the British and Sinde Governments, or the members thereof, or to impose upon either Government in matters wherewith the other is concerned, the whole family shall be expelled from Sinde, and that this compact be delivered to me by the Ameers with a pledge that, in such case, the Sinde Government will enforce the penalty.

5. The opportunity which this gives of maintaining a check upon this family, should not, I consider, be thrown away. This family is the greatest bar to a good understanding with the Ameers that exists in this country, to which, being Persian, it has no natural tie, and has only made itself of consequence since its importation from Persia, three generations ago, by officiating as the medium of intercourse with the British Government: the supposition that these Persians alone were capable of conducting negotiations with the English led, invariably, to the employment of Ismael Shah and his sons in the embassies to Bombay, and in all negotiations with us. It stood to reason, therefore, that the more frequently matters of dispute arose, the more necessary they became; and that their interest lay in secretly fomenting the many disputes to settle which their mediation was always required; and now that the more important employment, as Ambassadors, is no longer open to them, they can only hope to continue their influence by promoting disputes between the Governments by underhand means; and I have reason to believe, that every difference that has hitherto arisen, and every difficulty I have had yet to encounter, has been caused by these people, directly or indirectly, who are employed wherever the English are situated, as managers—at Kurachee, Shikarpore, &c. &c., and which, with the persevering cunning of their nation, ever will be exerted, unless some severe penalty be held *in terrorem* over them, such as this affords a pretext for imposing, and which should be enforced on the first opportunity of a decided breach of the compact which I would now exact from them.

6. This family was the fount from whence most of the reports injurious to British interests sprung, which were so industriously disseminated during the late exciting period, to which former diaries frequently alluded, and which at last became so gross, and were so frequently disproved, especially those from the Naib of Shikarpore (Ismael Shah, one of the brothers of this family), as to call down the public reproof from Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, noted in my diary of the 26th of October last.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 282.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to Lieutenant Whitelock.

Sir, *Hyderabad, January* 13, 1841.

AS the time has now arrived to carry into effect the instructions of his Lordship the Governor-General of India in Council, conveyed to me in Mr. Torrens' letter, dated the 14th of September last, regarding the settlement of the boundary dispute between their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, and Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, in your presence as umpire, I proceed to give such instructions as I consider necessary for your guidance.

As this Durbar has expressed its wish that Aliar-ka-Tanda should be the first place of meeting between the respective Ameers, and being equi-distant from Hyderabad and Meerpore, I have acquiesced in the arrangement, and informed their Highnesses that it it is your intention to proceed towards that place the day after to-morrow, there to await the arrival of the Ameers; and, in order to prevent delays on their part, I have intimated that, after having ascertained the nature of the boundaries disputed in that quarter, if both parties do not appear within a reasonable time to decide the case, after sending due warning to those absent as to the utmost limit you will wait, and the consequences of their non-attendance, you will consider it decided according to the opinion of the arbitrators present, and then proceed to the neighbourhood of the next disputed boundary they may recommend.

Although the Ameers have voluntarily sought the mediation of the British Government to effect an amicable settlement of the disputed territory, you should not interfere in the deliberations of the arbitrators, except when appealed to by all parties; but where they cannot come to a decision, ascertain, and define to the best of your ability, the exact limits of the disputed land, which, the Ameers should be informed by you, will be reported by me to their Highnesses, and either side interdicted from trespassing thereon, so long as the question remains undecided. When the matter is settled, you will require a paper from the arbitrators signed by all, distinctly detailing the nature of the limits, and describing the landmarks, to be handed up with a separate report on each case, for the purpose of being placed on record, and officially communicated by me to the parties concerned.

A journal should be kept minutely detailing all your proceedings, in case of future reference.

Should you have occasion to visit Meerpore or the places of residence of other persons of rank, it would perhaps be misconstrued were you to decline to partake of the hospitality usually proffered, which you might receive for one or two days, but, beyond that limit, you should rigidly refuse all supplies that you are not allowed to purchase; of course there can be no objection to your occasionally accepting of a cooked entertainment, which otherwise may be offered.

Nao Mull Seth will be requested to attend you, to aid by his local knowledge such inquiries as you make think it useful to make.

An escort of one native officer, two havildars, and twenty-five rank and file of the 8th Regiment, and a duffadar and twenty-four sowars of the Sinde irregular horse, will accompany you, and all the Government camels now here (twenty in number) are placed at your disposal, to prevent the necessity of calling upon the Ameers to furnish them, and hired camels being so difficult to procure at present.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

P.S.—While in the performance of the above duties you may have facilities of acquiring a knowledge of the real value of Meer Shere Mahomed's possessions, which I beg you will take every advantage of in your power, without letting it appear that your inquiries are so directed; and it is chiefly with a view to aid you in this object, that Nao Mull Seth is deputed with you, whose local knowledge and devotion to our interests can be relied on. You are aware that this inquiry is an object in consequence of the intrigue with which we have become acquainted to deceive us in this respect, with a view of securing a treaty proportionably advantageous, with reference to Meer Shere Mahomed's supposed means, compared with that of the Ameers of Hyderabad; and it is necessary that I should be fully informed on this subject, before transmitting any proposal the Ameer may have to make, to the Governor-General of India.

No. 283.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, February* 8, 1841.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, dated the 7th ultimo, reporting your proceedings in connexion with the succession to the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan of his two sons, Meer Shadad Khan and Meer Hoos-

sain Khan, and to acquaint you, in reply, that the Governor-General in Council approves of the part that you have taken on the occasion, and is happy to find that the exercise of your influence tended to secure the due enforcement of the late Ameer's will, and to check the disposition of the other Ameers to promote dissension between his sons.

2. The Governor-General has already addressed letters to Meer Shadad Khan and Meer Hoossein Khan, which were transmitted to you with my dispatch of the 4th ultimo. It did not then occur to his Lordship to write a letter of condolence to Meer Nusseer Khan, and after so long an interval, he doubts the expediency of doing so; though if your suggestion to that effect shall be repeated, he will have no objection to address a letter to that chief.

3. Not observing in your dispatch any mention of the obligations to the British Government which the two sons of Meer Mahomed Khan will have inherited with their patrimony from their father, but on the contrary, it appearing to be the design of the testator that his entire revenues should first be taxed to pay his share of the subsidy, and that what remained should then be divided between the sons, the Governor-General in Council concludes, that it is contemplated to make a positive partition of the estate, and hold each share liable for a moiety of the subsidy; but on this point you are requested to furnish more explicit information.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 284.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, February* 15, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 11th ultimo, submitting explanation of your proceedings at the Hyderabad Durbar, reported in your diary of the 5th idem, and suggesting the course to be pursued towards Syud Suleiman Shah.

In reply, I am directed to inform you, that your proceedings are approved by the Governor-General in Council, and that his Lordship sees no objection to the course which you propose (it is to be presumed by the friendly agency of the Ameers) to pursue with regard to Syud Suleiman Shah and his family, and hopes that it may prove effectual in deterring them from future machination and intrigue.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 285.

The Secretary to the Government of India to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Fort William, March* 15, 1841.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council, to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 4th ultimo, submitting your remarks on the demand against Meer Moobaruck's family, with documents showing the groundlessness of any claim set up by the heirs of his late Highness to exemption from this demand, which his Lordship in Council considers to be satisfactory.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 286.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, March* 23, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to hand up, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, a copy of a report from Lieutenant Whitelock, dated the 5th ultimo, of his proceedings in the endeavour to arbitrate the boundary

disputes between the Ameers of Hyderabad and Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, which it will be found came to nothing, in consequence of obstructions thrown by the latter in the way of any equitable settlement.

2. I had delayed thus long to trouble his Lordship with these voluminous papers, in the expectation that Meer Shere Mahomed Khan would be induced to tender such offers of compromise to their Highnesses as might have enabled me to bring about an amicable arrangement between the parties, on finding that he had rendered himself liable to the displeasure of the British Government, and that the attainment of a treaty was consequently jeopardized thereby; my inattention to the Ameer's overtures to that end of late being apparently caused by his conduct on this occasion, but, in reality, because I found that no treaty could at present be negotiated on satisfactory terms, owing to the Ameer being buoyed up by his Hindoo dewans and their colleagues in this city, with the expectation of deceiving me as to the real value of his estates, and thus imposing upon me as fair tribute to the British Government, compared with that paid by the other Ameers, a much smaller sum than he really ought to pay.

3. The conspiracy of the Hindoos alluded to, at the head of which are Meer Sobdar Khan's dewans, Outrai and Korah, which had long been known to me, was alluded to in my instructions to Lieutenant Whitelock (forwarded with my dispatch, dated 15th January last,) and proofs to the fact of 20,000 rupees being pledged to them by the chief on accomplishing his object, a portion of which has been paid in advance, could be furnished if necessary.

4. Under these circumstances, I considered it would be a more dignified mode of proceeding distinctly and finally to specify the exact price at which the benefit of a treaty would be extended to Meer Shere Mahomed, instead of haggling with him on the subject, and the pretext of the unsettled boundary dispute affords me time to obtain instructions as to the amount to be demanded, which the information I can now lay before the Governor-General in Council, as to the value of the chief's estates, may enable his Lordship to give.

5. Since Mr. Whitelock's letter was written, that gentleman's further inquiries, and information obtained from other sources, give us a nearer estimate of the revenue of the Meerpore Chief, being about 30,000 rupees more than that first framed, or a total of nearly six lacs of Company's rupees annually, at which I think the chief's income may finally be calculated. The estimate given in by the chief himself, is not, of course, worthy of any consideration whatever, and, besides shewing a smaller revenue than he really derives from the districts specified, it leaves out altogether the portions of the estate enjoyed by his brothers Shah Mahomed and Khan Mahomed, for whom he is liable.

6. It then remains to ascertain the average income of the Meers Mahomed Khan, the late Noor Mahomed Khan, and Nusseer Khan, from which to judge of the proportional tribute to be assigned to the Meerpore Chief: but, to guide me, I have no data except mere report and generally received opinion, which give six lacs to the first mentioned, eleven to to the second, and ten and a half to the third (besides Meer Sobdar's supposed five and a half lacs), which is higher than Colonel Pottinger rated their revenues at (that of all four Ameers I believe at 30 lacs); from which estimate I should think 50,000 rupees a fair proportion of tribute for Meer Shere Mahomed to pay.

7. With regard to the territory disputed between the Chiefs of Hyderabad and Meerpore, I have reason to think that the latter has right on his side; that previous to our treaty with the former he had recovered by force from the present Ameers, what his father had been deprived of by fraud; still, as our new allies never had relinquished their claim to the land in question, and the British Government has guaranteed their possessions, I could not refuse to mediate an adjustment, when called upon to do so in virtue of the Treaty—nor can it be allowed by the guardian power to which those Ameers look for protection, that their opponents should evade* to establish his right to hold what they claim, which is the effect of his late proceedings—even had he not been brought by fair persuasion in the first instance to consent to our arbitration; at the same time, however, although Meer Shere Mahomed may have rendered himself amenable to our displeasure, and even ejectment from the disputed ground, at least until his right is established, I have studiously avoided pursuing any course for the present, which possibly

Sic in orig.

might drive him to any act that would close the door to a just settlement hereafter, for it is not to be forgotten that, having yet had no personal intercourse with Europeans, he is easily led to mistrust our impartiality by the intriguers by whom he is surrounded, and whose object it is to plunge him into difficulty, to gain after reward by appearing to extricate him therefrom, and to oblige him to purchase through them the treaty, which alone, they tell him, will place him on an equality with his opponents.

8. From these considerations, had Meer Shere Mahomed Khan evinced any eager desire to avail himself even now of our mediation, I proposed deputing Lieutenant Whitelock to Meerpore, to remove the suspicions and jealousies by which he is blinded, and with that view detained that gentleman here till the 15th instant. No satisfactory overtures with respect to the boundary dispute having been made, however, up to that date, I then sent Mr. Whitelock to Kurachee to relieve Lieutenant Cristall, the officer who had been appointed temporarily to officiate for him.

9. It now remains for me to solicit the honour of his Lordship's instructions as to what course to pursue, both with respect to the proposed Treaty and the disputed boundary, at the same time respectfully submitting my opinion: 1st., That a fixed amount of tribute should be demanded, and not departed from, which I think may be fairly rated at half a lac of Company's rupees annually; that, if the Chief rejects these terms, he be given publicly to understand, that the British Government has no cause to interfere in his behalf with the Hyderabad Durbar, or any other Power that considers it has cause for hostility to him, although at the same time our obligations to those Powers will not permit any retaliation on his part on their territory. 2nd., That, however the treaty question may be settled, Meer Shere Mahomed Khan must depute arbitrators fully empowered to act for the settlement of the boundary to meet those appointed by the Hyderabad Durbar, at such time and place as the British agent may direct—in the presence of an umpire appointed by him, and must bind himself in the same pledges as these chiefs may do — to abstain from cultivating the disputed land or from levying ought from, or exercising sovereignty over, or in any way interfering with, persons occupying such territory, until the right of either party has been established.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 287.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, April 5, 1841.*

THE Governor-General in Council having noticed certain entries in the diary of the Hyderabad agency and the précis of occurrences received from your office, from which it would appear that delay and difficulty have, at this early period of our late alliance with the Ameers, begun to be experienced in the realization of their tribute to the British Government, has directed me to observe that, while he approves the determination with which Lieutenant Leckie insisted on the liquidation of the tribute due according to the letter of the Treaty of 1839, and of your conduct in postponing your visit to the Ameers on your return to Hyderabad till this question should be settled to your satisfaction, his Lordship in Council views in these discussions a probability that on some future occasion the difficulties of realizing the tribute may be repeated, and he therefore deems it right to direct your attention to the correspondence with Sir H. Pottinger in 1839 on the subject of commuting this contribution for a cession to the British Government of the lands and revenues of Shikarpore, a measure the present advantages of which should not be lost sight of, in the event of any failure on the part of the Ameers in their pecuniary obligations to us.

2. The Governor-General in Council is not, however, in possession of precise information of the manner in which the revenues of Shikarpore are shared by the Ameers, nor whether the apportionment is such as would easily admit of a territorial cession in lieu of their money tribute, and on this point you are desired to furnish such information as you possess, and to report your sentiments on the manner in which a proposition to relieve the Ameers from

their contribution in money, in lieu of the cession of Shikarpore, would probably be received by them.

3. I am desired to observe that the great object of the British Government in obtaining a cession of the town of Shikarpore, and of some of the country around it, would be to give an impetus to commerce, by ensuring protection and justice to the resident traders. In this view the possession of the place would apparently be most valuable, but upon this point Mr. Bell will be requested to state his sentiments, a copy of this letter being communicated to him.

4. In the event of Shikarpore remaining in the hands of the Ameers of Sinde, it seems to his Lordship in Council, that as they must greatly benefit by the large expenditure of our troops and by the general protection of commerce, they should be led to co-operate with us in a considerable degree in works of public utility, such as that of the road connecting Sukkur with Shikarpore, which has been contemplated by the authorities in Upper Sinde, as well as in the support of a stronger and an improved police.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 288.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, April 26, 1841.*

IN reply to your dispatch dated the 23rd ultimo, I am directed to state, that the Governor-General in Council approves of your proceedings, with respect to the boundary dispute between Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, and the Hyderabad Ameers, and on that point, and on the subject of the terms on which Meer Shere Mahomed Khan may be admitted to political relations with the British Government, has been pleased to issue the following instructions for your guidance:—

2. You will officially intimate to Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, that if he is desirous to be placed upon the same footing as that obtained by the other Ameers of Sinde, by the conditions of the Treaty of Hyderabad, the Governor-General is now willing to admit him to the benefits of that treaty, on his agreeing to contribute the annual payment to the British Government, of 50,000 Company's rupees.

3. Meer Shere Mahomed Khan should at the same time be made clearly to understand that, if these terms are now rejected by him, he is not to expect that he will at any time hereafter be admitted to the benefits of the Hyderabad Treaty on terms so favourable, as the Government may, in that case, feel itself justified in imposing upon his estate conditions more nearly approximating to those to which most of the tributary States of India are subject.

4. With respect to the boundary disputes, the Governor-General in Council approves, with some modification, of the manner in which you propose to treat this question, as explained in the 9th paragraph of your letter. We may not be entitled authoritatively to require Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, who has not yet acknowledged our supremacy, to depute arbitrators and to be bound by our decision, but we cannot, of course, allow him to interfere forcibly in any manner with the possessions of a chief who is placed under our protection, or permit such possession to be in any manner disturbed without our being satisfied of the justice of the adverse claim.

5. It is in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council very desirable that this chieftain should, without further delay, be brought within the sphere of our political relations, and his Lordship in Council will leave it at your discretion to depute an officer to Meerpore to communicate to him the above views of the Government of India, or to explain yourself to him in writing.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 289.

Lieutenant Postans to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, May* 10, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch in the secret department, of the 4th instant; and beg leave to forward, in the Schedule hereto annexed, a statement of the present annual value to the Hyderabad Durbar, of their share of the revenue of the city of Shikarpore and its dependent talookahs, with the number of villages in each mahal or talookah.

These returns have been collected from the kardars at various periods; and, though I have not had the opportunity of testing them by reference to official records (these being transmitted to Hyderabad), I have every reason to believe, from other sources of inquiry, that the statements I now transmit may be sufficiently relied upon for the purposes required.

2. The position of the town of Shikarpore, as the entrepôt of commerce with the north-west, and the impulse which our indirect influence here has already given its trade, sufficiently point out that its prospective value, in revenue alone, would, under our management, be on the increase; whilst the other, and perhaps still more important object alluded to in the 3rd paragraph of the Secretary to Government's letter, would, I submit, be fully accomplished.

3. The lands subject to Shikarpore coming under the general title of the "Moghlee" district, are all within the influence of the inundations of the Indus, and dependent, for their productiveness, on the labour bestowed, and expense incurred, in the annual clearing and deepening the canals. In this latter, the parsimony, which is a leading feature in the policy of the Sinde Durbars, prevents anything approaching a full developement of the unusual capabilities of the Hyderabad possessions in Upper Sinde; and I have, therefore, no hesitation in concluding, that, under our management, and with a more liberal system towards the cultivators, the future value of the revenue to be derived from the portion of the country which would fall in with the city of Shikarpore, would be liable to considerable increase. You are of course aware, that three-sevenths of the town is the property of the Khyrpore Durbar, and valued at about 36,000 rupees annually, divided in the proportion of two-thirds to his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, and one-third to Meer Nusseer Khan, his nephew and the son of the late Meer Moobaruck Khan.

4. In conclusion, I trust I may be allowed to remark, that I consider the accomplishment of the measures contemplated, would far outweigh, in future benefits, any reasonable present sacrifice of tribute; and that the acquisition of Shikarpore, viewed in all its bearings, cannot fail hereafter to prove of importance to our measures in this quarter; as such, I sincerely trust. you may be enabled to carry it out.

I have, &c.,

T. POSTANS.

No. 290.

SCHEDULE, shewing the Amount of annual Revenue collected by the Hyderabad Durbar, from the City of Shikarpore, and the lands and villages thereto belonging, calculated from the collections of last year.

1. The City of Shikarpore yields to Meers Noor Mahomed Khan, Shadad Khan, and Nusseer Khan, after all expenses:—

Annually rupees -	-	48,000
The lands dependent thereto .	-	69,000
Total, Shikarpore rupees		117,000

Thus divided,—Monthly, to Meer Shadad Khan appropriated to the maintenance of the Zenana of the late Meer Noor Mahomed, Korah rupees - - - - - - 7,000
Ditto to Meer Nusseer Khan - - - - - 6,000

Total monthly, Korah rupees 13,000
or annually, with exchange at 25 per cent. Company's rupees, 117,000.

List of Talhooks and Villages the sole property of the late Noor Mahomed Khan.

No. 1. Mahal LUKKEE.

Villages.	Villages.
1. Lukkee.	7. Rubbun.
2. Soonue.	8. Abdoo.
3. Cussim.	9. Sumanoo.
4. Jan Khan.	10. Nooroo.
5. Maboob.	11. Ahmil.
6. Sunjur.	12. Sutur Deenar Mihu.

No. 2. Mahal GURREE Yasseen Khan.

1. Gurree.	3. Chuttah dook.
2. Punabor dook.	4. Ruballah.

No. 3. Mahal KURREEM.

1. Kurrum.	4. Kumun.
2. Chundgote.	5. Kombrah.
3. Mahomed Khan Borah.	6. Kakeepotrah.

No. 4. Mahal DULEELPORE.

1. Meerpore.	3. Suleiman Chunah.
2. Chandrau.	4. Kallora.

No. 5. *Villages the sole property of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan not included in Mahals.*

1. Rajah.	5. Rutriah.
2. Bekaree.	6. Noor.
3. Yarno bonah.	7. Tabriah.
4. Lodeh.	

No. 6. *Talookahs and villages the joint property of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan and the Khyrpore Durbar.*

1. Mahal WUZZEERABAD (divided into five shares of which three belong to Khyrpore.)

Villages.	Villages.
1. Khahee.	6. Jooneghur.
2. Lalloopuar.	7. Beyab.
3. Denoo Meher.	8. Koondur Oomeer.
4. Deenah Todah.	9. Chund.
5. Nemura.	

2. Mahal KHANPORE (divided equally with the Khyrpore Durbar.)

1. Khanpore.	2. Murried Setarh.

No. 7. *Villages of which one-third is the property of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan and two-thirds that of the Khyrpore Durbar.*

1. Sunjurpul pootrah.	3. Gullorrah.
2. Lallee.	

No. 8. *List of villages and Talookahs the sole property of Meer Nusseer Khan.*

1. Mahal GOZERJEE.

1. Gozerjee.	5. Chumanee.
2. Tumaskanee.	6. Abud Korah.
3. Wurreeayah.	7. Dreeah.
4. Soomurkoree.	8. Furash.

2. Mahal MOOBARUCKPORE.

1. Shal.
2. Meean Sahib.
3. Kerjar.
4. Rajan Kuttoor.
5. Hajee Khan Deeah.
6. Ghullum Ali Kuttur.
7. Kot Nawazeh.

No. 9. *Villages the sole property of Meer Nusseer Khan not belonging to Mahals or Talookahs.*

1. Humajun.
2. Ghurree Chund.
3. Bungalah.
4. Zarkheil.
5. Jooneghur.

No. 10. *Talookahs and villages the joint property of Meer Nusseer Khan and the Khyrpore Durbar.*

1. Mahal ROOPER (divided into three shares of which one-third belongs to Meer Nusseer Khan.)
   1. Kot Sultan.
   2. Jagun.

ABSTRACT.

1. The sole property of the late Meer Noor Mahomed of Hyderabad—
   4 Mahals or Talookahs.
   33 Villages.

2. The joint property of Meer Noor Mahomed and the Khyrpore Durbar—
   2 Mahals or Talookahs.
   14 Villages.

3. The sole property of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad—
   2 Mahals or Talookahs.
   20 Villages.

4. The joint property of ditto and the Khyrpore Durbar—
   1 Mahal or Talookah.
   2 Villages.

No. 291.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, May 10, 1841.*

YOUR dispatch dated the 10th ultimo, stating that you will take the necessary steps with reference to the demands against the family of the late Meer Moobaruck has been received in this office: and I am directed to observe, that the Governor-General in Council will hope that the very earliest opportunity may be taken on your return to the neighbourhood to adjust this question.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 292.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *No. 38. Fort William, May 12, 1841.*

IN accordance with our instructions of the 14th of September, 1840, to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde, Lieutenant Whitelock was deputed on the 15th of January last, to Allyar-Kazenah, a place midway between Hyderabad and Meerpore, to effect an amicable settlement of the boundary dispute between their Highnesses the Ameers of those places. Lieutenant Whitelock was in-

structed not to interfere with the deliberations of the arbitrators, except when appealed to by all parties. He was also desired to avail himself of every opportunity of ascertaining the real value of Meer Shere Mahomed Khan's possessions, a point of information which was considered of importance by Major Outram, in consequence of an intrigue which had become known to him, to deceive us in this respect, with a view to securing a treaty which that chief was desirous of negotiating with us, proportionally more advantageous to him, as compared with that entered into with the Ameers of Hyderabad.

You will perceive that, in consequence of difficulties thrown in the way by Meer Shere Mahomed, no equitable settlement of the boundary dispute has been effected at present; as this chief has not yet acknowledged our supremacy, we have not considered ourselves entitled authoritatively to require him to depute arbitrators and to be bound by our decision; but we have informed Major Outram, that we could not allow him to interfere forcibly, in any manner, with the possessions of a chief who is placed under our protection, or permit such possessions to be disturbed, without our being fully satisfied of the justice of the adverse claim.

With respect to Meer Shere Mahomed Khan's wish to be placed on the same footing as that obtained by the other Ameers of Sinde, by the conditions of the Treaty of Hyderabad, we desired Major Outram to intimate to him our willingness to admit him to the benefit of that Treaty, on his agreeing to contribute to the annual payment to the British Government, 50,000 Company's rupees.

We, at the same time, gave him distinctly to understand, that should these terms be rejected, he is not to expect that he will, at any time hereafter, be admitted to the benefits of the Hyderabad Treaty on terms so favourable, as the Government would in that case feel itself justified in imposing upon his estate conditions more nearly approximating to those to which most of the tributary States of India are subject.

No. 293.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, May* 24, 1841.

WITH reference to your dispatch dated the 26th ultimo, conveying the instructions of the Governor-General of India in Council, as to the course to be pursued towards Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, I beg leave, with the utmost deference, to represent, that the difficulty alluded to in the 7th paragraph of my letter to your address dated the 23rd of March last, can scarcely be removed by confining myself to the letter of the instructions contained in the 4th paragraph of your dispatch, and I beg respectfully to solicit the reconsideration of his Lordship to the fact that the disputed lands in question are already in the possession of Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, and were so when the late Treaty was concluded; but long before, and ever since, that period, the Hyderabad Ameers claimed the land.

2. Consequently, if I confine my interference merely to preventing Meer Shere Mahomed Khan from disturbing the present possessions of the Hyderabad Ameers, and, at the same time, restrain the latter from attempting to recover by force what they declare was forcibly taken from them, the latter will reasonably consider that they are shackled from righting themselves rather than protected in their rights, by their ties to the British Government, for which they pay tribute, while their neighbour, who is free from such ties, is gratuitously confirmed in his possessions, including what they affirm belongs to themselves; and Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, finding he is secure of all the advantages of a treaty, by British control over all the States surrounding him, will see no necessity for contributing any thing for the benefit of the Treaty.

3. It is very possible that I may bring about an amicable arrangement by the exertion of my personal influence; but, should I find that impracticable, it appears to me that it would be highly impolitic to allow Meer Shere Mahomed Khan to retain undisturbed possession of the disputed territory, that it would

give that chief an undue sense of his importance, and an idea that he can maintain himself without British protection, and that it would cause the Hyderabad chiefs to misinterpret the spirit of the Treaty, and to undervalue its benefit.

4. I again, therefore, submissively request the consideration of his Lordship to the 7th, 8th, and 9th paragraphs of my dispatch dated 23rd of March; but should the course I therein recommended, as in my opinion the least harsh, and most likely to compel both parties to amicable arbitration be deemed unadvisable, I beg to suggest that Shere Mahomed be called upon to submit the case to our decision, and informed that, if he refuses, the Hyderabad Durbar will be authorized to forcibly possess itself of the disputed territory with its own means, and that, in the event of protracted resistance on his part, British aid would be afforded to subdue him, when his losses would not be confined to the disputed land alone.

5. Under the present state of affairs between the parties, it would not, I consider, be his Lordship's wish that I should tender a treaty to Meer Shere Mahomed, that chief having lately committed some petty acts of aggression on our allies, which, however, I have little doubt were caused by the fault of the latter in the first instance; and I have sent Lieutenant Leckie to the spot to inquire into the merits of the case. Should I ascertain that Meer Shere Mahomed Khan is not much to blame, I may find a fitting mode of carrying into effect his Lordship's instructions contained in the 2nd paragraph of your dispatch now under reply; but I think that, in fairness to the Hyderabad Ameers, who have so long forborne from hostilities in deference to the British Government, the first condition of granting the Treaty should be, that all disputed lands at present held by that chief are to be submitted to the decision of the Political Agent, and that, in the event of his refusal of the Treaty on such conditions, and the pecuniary terms offered, the course suggested in the last paragraph should be adopted.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 294.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, May* 27, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge your dispatch dated the 5th ultimo, and to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, that, in accordance with the instructions therein contained, I adopted such steps as I considered best calculated to effect his Lordship's object, the result of which will be found in the accompanying copies of correspondence with Meer Nusseer Khan, to be a voluntary offer by his Highness, on certain terms, of the whole of his own and late brother's shares, in Shikarpore and its dependencies, being sole proprietors of this Durbar's shares in that city and province, the extent and value of which may, in some measure be judged of from the estimate contained in the accompanying copy of a reply from Captain Postans to my queries on the subject.

2. It having been hitherto an object doubtless with the Ameer's managers, to depreciate the real value of those possessions, Captain Postans' estimate of the surplus revenue at 117,000 rupees is probably as far below, as the Ameer's calculation of the city and suburbs at 110,000, and neighbouring pergunnahs at 200,000, is above, the real value; but having now free access to the Durbar records, which can be tested with the books of the various landholders and custom farmers on the spot, the truth cannot be concealed; and the agreement being to cede the whole management and produce to the British Government, at one-fifth beyond the surplus revenue hitherto derived by this Government, which we can take our own time to ascertain, precludes the possibility of loss by the transaction, which closing at once for a specified sum might have caused, at the same time that it is left to his Lordship to reject the arrangement, should it be disapproved, the offer being from the opposite party, which, on that account, as well as on my conviction that our seeking the arrangement would most probably deter the Ameers from acceding to it, I purposely brought about, by measures to be traced in the diary of the agency for the past month.

3. Although I consider Meer Nusseer Khan's acquiescence conclusive, being principal sharer himself, and executor of his brother's will, which assigned his share of Shikarpore to his widow for her lifetime (afterwards to be divided betweeen his sons) who can have no objection to receive an equal income from any other source, which the remitted tribute will give, I shall secure the agreement of all three, previous to concluding the arrangement, on learning his Lordship's wishes; in the meantime, they are not aware apparently that they ought to have a voice in the matter.

4. I am not aware whether negotiations with the Khyrpore Ameers to the same end have been directed; but I am of opinion, that obtaining their shares of the territory in question might prudently be deferred, until we have ascertained by experience, under our own management, what pecuniary return may be insured therefrom, as the great object detailed in the third paragraph of your letter will be attained by the right to sole management we may reasonably assume, as having the larger share, merely accounting to the other shareholders for their proportion of the revenues.

5. The Ameer is anxious to retain the nominal sovereignty over Shikarpore of the Sinde Durbar of course; and, as I presume it is his Lordship's wish to maintain the dignity of this Government, and the residence there of its representative could in no way affect us, I conclude that no objection will be made to Shikarpore and the pergunnas being styled as farmed in perpetuity from the Hyderabad State, and Khyrpore, if its share is made over to us. The Ameers also wish the right of coining, in virtue, and as proof, of sovereignty, which I think might be conceded without disadvantage; for as we would only receive the Company's rupee, in payment of the revenue, and in our camps, of course there would be too little demand for the Sinde currency, to repay the expense of coinage, and the Ameers would be gratified by the mere right being acknowledged, without ever exercising it probably.

6. With reference to the last paragraph of your dispatch now under reply, I beg to observe that I have lately had occasion to urge upon this Government the absolute necessity of establishing an efficient police in the Shikarpore districts, and purposely dwelt on the responsibility of this Durbar for all losses by British subjects, for robberies incurred within their territory, which, and the liability of quarrels between their subjects and the British soldiery stationed at and marching through Shikarpore, might cause frequent discussions and misunderstandings between the two Governments, was a strong inducement to the other Ameers to advise Meer Nusseer Khan to make over the country to us. At the same time, although, by persuasion, I have little doubt I might have induced that chief to contribute towards making the proposed road, still, as that could not be insisted on as a right, it might have led to the suspicion, that my advice with regard to the cession was not altogether spontaneous, and might have weakened my demand for the police on the ground of right, had the pecuniary contribution been equally urged; and, moreover, I had every expectation that the course I pursued would bring about this arrangement, which of course sets aside the claim.

7. Meer Nusseer Khan, at first, asked one-fourth in addition to the surplus revenues of the districts, as the price of ceding them; but this, I told him, I could not propose or recommend. If, however, I said, "it really does turn out as you represent, that the revenue is so much greater than you realize, owing to the dishonesty of your managers, I have little doubt the Governor-General will consider your request for that amount; but if we find that you obtained a fair revenue, after deducting a fair proportion for the expense of management, you cannot expect any increase beyond a fifth, in addition to the surplus revenue you have hitherto realized, which is so much certain gain to you."

8. At that rate, or even at the increase of the fourth, I should hope the transaction will prove as profitable in a pecuniary point of view as it must prove advantageous to both Governments, by removing so prolific a theatre for misunderstandings which constantly must have arisen in a province so badly governed by the Sinde rulers, while occupied by British troops, and mercantile establishments; particularly so must it prove in a philanthropic view, as affording the power to improve the country and the people: and the political and mercantile benefits to be derived from the measure, would, I consider, be well worth the sacrifice of the whole sum we pay beyond the surplus revenue, should our expectations of rapid increase in value not be realized, or the greater expense of our

management compared with that of the Native Government, leave a smaller surplus revenue than what has hitherto been realized.

9. It is also to be recollected that we held out the promise to the Sinde rulers of increase to their revenues, especially at the great commercial mart, Shikarpore, from opening the river, to which they mainly looked to be reimbursed for the sacrifice of their river tolls; also, that many retainers of the Government who held offices, or otherwise derived support in that country, will now be thrown upon the Ameers for subsistence, on which consideration I think the claims of one-fifth, or even one-fourth above the surplus revenue, just and moderate.

10. It will afford gratification to the Governor-General to observe the ready confidence with which this Government is now guided by advice; this measure, more especially, were they jealously afraid of formerly, and I am confident the mere proposition would have caused serious agitation a few months ago; it is the more satisfactory in this case, that it proves we have overcome the pernicious influence of the Persian clan, which hitherto led the councils of this Government, and whose interests are deeply compromised by this arrangement, the second member of the family, Nawab Tubu Shah, being Governor of Shikarpore, where he is realizing a large fortune, and many other members being in office there, and in the districts, in subordinate capacities, they alone (the Persians) being supposed sufficiently clever to come in contact with British officers, for which reason Sadig Shah (the third of the family) and other relations, fill all the offices of importance at Kurachee.

11. Six months ago this measure could not have been effected in opposition to the influence of this family, which, however, has now, I am happy to find, been overthrown; the death-blow to it being the exposure of the forgery of my seal by one of its members, and consequent refusal on my part to hold any intercourse with any individual belonging to it, until all shall have executed the compact demanded from them as the price of pardon to their kinsman, which I well knew they were too wedded to intrigue to bind themselves to. Being on this subject, I take the opportunity to state, for the information of his Lordship, that in reply to my message to the Durbar, requesting the exaction of the mutual bond alluded to, I was informed that nothing but positive force would induce Zynoolabdeen Shah and his brothers to execute it, but that each individual was ready to give a bond for himself; to this I replied that I did not require their Highnesses to use force, that it was of no consequence, only I expected the guilty man should not be released, neither would I receive them, until the required engagement was given, this latter being my real object. I have never since pressed the matter, consequently Syud Zynoolabdeen Shah and his brethren are never employed as heretofore, as the medium of communication with me in matters of importance, and the Ameers finding they got on without them, are no longer led by the family, which has consequently lost its importance.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 295.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, June 14, 1841.*

IN reply to your letter of May 24th, I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to state, that, as the disputed lands, therein referred to, are in the possession of the Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, there can be no objection to a permission being given to the Hyderabad Ameers to assert their claims to those lands through their own means; if Meer Shere Mahomed should decline to submit the case to our arbitration. It is hoped, that when it shall be known that the Hyderabad Ameers have obtained permission to act for themselves in this matter, Meer Shere Mahomed will no longer persist in preventing a fair arbitration of the dispute under your supervision.

2. It would not be proper that the aid of any of our troops should be afforded to an attack made by the Hyderabad Ameers, under the circumstances herein supposed.

3. In the event of an amicable negotiation being on foot with Meer Shere Mahomed for the settlement of a treaty with the British Government, his Lordship in Council would quite approve your making it a condition with him that the dispute regarding the lands should be submitted to your decision.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 296.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, June* 23, 1841.

WITH reference to your dispatch dated the 26th of April last, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, that the result of my proceedings, in accordance with the instructions therein conveyed to me, is, Meer Shere Mahomed's acceptance of the Treaty on the terms offered, viz: 50,000 Company's rupees annual tribute, and a pledge to submit his territorial disputes with the Ameers of Hyderabad to the decision of the Political Agent, which stipulation I considered it politic to exact as one of the terms of the Treaty, to prevent future difficulties and misconceptions, as well as in good faith to our previous allies the Ameers of Hyderabad, who might have reasonably complained of our forming amicable alliance with their avowed enemy, without, at least, first securing a pledge for the adjustment of their differences.

2. His Lordship will be happy to learn that, in addition to this pledge, I have effected through the aid of Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, a still more satisfactory object—the reconciliation of Meers Nusseer Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan, between whom the principal enmity existed, and whose families had been estranged for two generations, to bind which the infant son of the latter was deputed to Hyderabad the day before yesterday, when, there being no further plea for hostile preparations, Meer Nusseer Khan dismissed his army at my requisition. Meer Meer Mahomed Khan's conduct throughout, as a general peacemaker, has been highly praiseworthy; any expression of praise from his Lordship, either through me, or what would be more appreciated, by letter, would be highly gratifying to that chief, who, being old and infirm, and having no family or other motive for intrigue, appears really to have nothing to look for but reputation, and to value nothing so highly as the esteem of the British Government.

3. The measures by which these objects have been attained will be traced in the accompanying extracts from my diary, translations of correspondence with Meers Nusseer Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan, my letter to the latter conveying the terms on which the Treaty would be granted, and his replies acceding thereto, which I hope may meet his Lordship's approval, as upholding the rights of our allies without infringing on those of their opponent; as permitting the hostile preparations of these Ameers only in so far as was necessary to that end, while, at the same time, held so completely under control, that I was sure no hostile issue could take place* without

* The Chiefs of the Belooch soldiery had intimated to the Ameer, that they positively would not act without my orders! which I attribute to their being aware of the circumstance of my having resisted every proposal of the Ameers to interfere with the immunities of their feudal chieftains,—a measure to which Noor Mahomed endeavoured to obtain my countenance shortly after I first assumed charge. Vide the following extract from my Diary dated 22nd May, 1840.

"In the course of the conference Meer Noor Mahomed asked my advice, as to whether, now that the Government had become powerful from the protection of the British Government, he might not fairly resume somewhat of the increased lands and salaries which the Belooch chiefs and soldiery had exacted from them when the Government was weak and divided." Answered. "Your Highness having gained great advantages from the close alliance with, and protection of, the British Government, it would surely be unfair that your subjects should suffer thereby, and most certainly it will be a source of great displeasure to the Governor-General of India should your Highness deprive any chiefs of rights previously obtained from the Government." The Ameer remarked,—"Certainly in that no change shall occur." But I am well aware, and have previously reported, that very great resumptions had previously taken place, besides considerable exactions, under pretence of contribution to the tribute. I fancy his object was to try to get me to countenance the system, and doubt not that, in fact, this was the principal object of seeking this conference."

Since that period, I understand, their jagheers have not been infringed upon.

my sanction; as evincing a determination to preserve inviolate the possessions of the Hyderabad Ameers, which induced their neighbour to seek similar protection; and as displaying so evident a desire to preserve peace among the chiefs, and to benefit them, instead of promoting dissensions for our own advantage, that the suspicion heretofore generally entertained, that such was the object of placing all on an equality, must now be entirely removed.

4. Meer Futteh Khan, the infant son of Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, was brought to visit me this morning, and returns to Meerpore this evening, having been received and treated in such a manner by the Ameers of Hyderabad as cannot fail to gratify his father.

5. I yesterday deputed Moonshee Ali Akbar to Meerpore, with duplicate copies of the Treaties, which when signed and sealed by Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, will be forwarded for his Lordship's ratification.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 297.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, June* 30, 1841.

WITH reference to my dispatch to your address dated the 23rd instant, I have now the honor to transmit, for the ratification of the Governor-General of India in Council, two original drafts of the Treaty entered into with Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, signed and sealed by the Ameer, one of which he has been assured will be returned to him duly ratified by the Governor-General, should the Treaty as now framed meet his Lordship's approval.

The draft I have now the honor to submit, is a transcript of the treaties existing with the Hyderabad Ameers, with the exception of the necessary difference in the wording of the preamble of the present Treaty, caused by the circumstance of no previous treaties having existed with the Meer of Meerpore, which are alluded to in the preamble of the Treaties with the Ameers of Hyderabad; and no allusion being made to the Chief of Khyrpore, which is unnecessary in this case; also, the omission of the paragraph which terminated the Treaties alluded to, having only been called for in those documents, in consequence of the original drafts then submitted to his Lordship being disapproved and fresh ones substituted; and the following alterations in the body of the Treaty, which circumstances called for, as follows:—1st. Article II. of the Hyderabad Treaties, stipulating the amount of troops to be stationed in Sinde, &c., is omitted in the present Treaty, as unnecessary. 2nd. Article III. of the Hyderabad Treaty corresponds with Article II. of the Meerpore ditto, excepting in the difference in the amount of tribute stipulated. 3rd. Article IV. of the Hyderabad Treaty corresponds with Article III. of the Meerpore ditto. 4th. Article V. of the Hyderabad Treaty corresponds with Article IV. of the Meerpore ditto. 5th. Article VI. of the Hyderabad Treaty corresponds with Article V. of the Meerpore ditto, with the exception that, in the latter, the sentence "confirmed in his present undisputed possessions," is substituted for "being confirmed in their present possessions," having reference to the next Article of the Meerpore Treaty. 6th. Article VI. of the Meerpore Treaty, stipulating for the settlement of the boundaries disputed with the Ameers of Hyderabad, is added, having no corresponding Article in the Hyderabad Treaty, for reasons stated in the 1st paragraph of my letter of the 23rd instant. 7th. All the remaining Articles of both Treaties correspond in number, and purport, excepting that the portion of Article X. of the Hyderabad Treaty, "If the officers of the British Government establish a Mint within the territory of the Ameers parties to this Treaty, and there coin Bakkroo, or Tymooree rupees, the Ameers shall be entitled to seignorage on the coinage according to the customs of the country," is omitted in Article X. of the Meerpore Treaty, as unnecessary; and in the 14th, or concluding, Article of the present Treaty, allusion to former treaties is omitted as inapplicable.

The Agency Moonshee, Meerza Ali Akbar, whom I deputed to Meerpore with the drafts of the Treaty for Meer Shere Mahomed Khan's ratification, reports that he was received with the utmost civility, and treated in every way evincing

the chief's gratification at being thus honored with a treaty by the British Government. The Ameer was perfectly satisfied with every Article of the Treaty, on the Moonshee explaining to him the cause of the alterations between his Treaty and that of the Hyderabad Ameers, of which he had previously obtained a copy, the Ameer having questioned him closely regarding each point of difference.

Meer Shere Mahomed Khan is described by the Moonshee as a very intelligent, sensible, and strong-minded man, though totally uneducated, and unable either to write or speak Persian.

I have the honor to annex lists of presents received from Meer Shere Mahomed Khan, on the occasion of his vakeels tendering his acceptance of the Treaty, amounting in value to Company's rupees 406. 8, which have been placed in the Tosha Khana, and of those given by me in return amounting in value to Company's rupees 415. 3. 10, of which articles to the value of Company's rupees 102. 3. 10, not being in my possession, were purchased for the occasion, for which amount of rupees 102. 3. 10, I have accordingly the honor to request the sanction of his Lordship.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 298.

Treaty of Fourteen Articles between the British Government and the Ameer of Meerpore, Meer Shere Mahomed Khan.

WHEREAS Treaties of Amity and Friendship have been concluded between the Honorable East India Company and the Ameers of Hyderabad, a separate treaty on the same principle is now entered into, between that Power and his Highness Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, and the following Articles have been agreed upon by the contracting parties:—

ARTICLE I.

That there shall be lasting friendship, alliance, and unity of interests between the Honorable East India Company and the Ameer of Meerpore, Meer Shere Mahomed Khan.

ARTICLE II.

Meer Shere Mahomed Khan binds himself to pay every year the sum of half a lac of rupees, of the Company's currency, in part payment of the expense of the Britsh Force stationed in Sinde, viz., on the 1st of February, of each year.

ARTICLE III.

The British Government takes upon itself the protection of the territory now possessed by the Ameer of Meerpore, from all foreign aggression.

ARTICLE IV.

Meer Shere Mahomed Khan shall remain sole ruler in his principality; and the jurisdiction of the British Government shall not be introduced into his territory; the officers of the British Government will not listen to, or encourage, complaints against the Ameer from his subjects.

ARTICLE V.

The Ameer being confirmed in his present undisputed possessions by the preceding Article, will refer to the British Representative in Sinde any complaint of aggression which he may make against any of the other Ameers; and the Political Agent, with the sanction of the Governor-General, will endeavour to mediate between them, and settle their differences.

ARTICLE VI.

The territories at present disputed between Meer Shere Mahomed Khan and the Ameers of Hyderabad shall be submitted to the decision of Arbitrators, appointed by both parties, and an umpire appointed by the Political Agent.

ARTICLE VII.

In case of aggression by the subjects of one Ameer on the territories of another, and of the Ameer by whose subjects such aggressions are made, declaring his inability to prevent them, in consequence of the offending parties being in rebellion to his authority, on a representation of the circumstances being made to the Governor-General by the Political Agent, the Governor-General will, if he sees fit, order such assistance to be afforded as may be requisite to bring the offenders to punishment.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Ameer will not enter into any negotiation with any foreign Chief, or State, without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government: his amicable correspondence with his friends and relations may continue.

ARTICLE IX.

The Ameer will act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government for the purposes of defence, and shall furnish for the service of the British Government a proportional quota of troops to that supplied by other Ameers whenever required. Those troops when employed with British Forces, will be under the orders and control of the Commanding Officer of the British Forces; the Ameer's troops, if employed beyond the Sinde frontier, will be paid by the British Government.

ARTICLE X.

The Bakkroo, or Tymooree rupee current in Sinde, and the Honorable Company's rupee, being of equal value, the currency of the latter coin shall be admitted into the Ameer's territory.

ARTICLE XI.

No toll will be levied on trading boats, passing up or down the river Indus, from the Sea to the northernmost point of that stream within the territories of the Ameer.

ARTICLE XII.

But any merchandize landed from boats on their passage up or down the river, and sold, shall be subject to the usual duties of the country, provided always that goods sold in a British camp or cantonment shall be exempt from the payment of duty.

ARTICLE XIII.

Goods of all kinds may be brought by Merchants and others to the mouths of the Indus (Gorabaree), at the proper season, and kept there at the pleasure of the owners till the best season of the year for sending them up the river; but should any merchant land and sell any part of his merchandize, either at Gorabaree or any where else, except at the British cantonment, such merchant shall pay the usual duty.

ARTICLE XIV.

The provisions of this Treaty, agreed upon by the Governor-General of India on the one part, and Meer Shere Mahomed Khan on the other part, shall be binding for ever on all succeeding Governments of India, and on the heirs and successors of the said Ameer in perpetuity.

No. 299.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, July* 5, 1841.

YOUR dispatch of the 27th of May, relative to the proposition for transferring to the British Government the territorial management of the Hyderabad share of Shikarpore, has been under the consideration of the Governor-General in Council; and I am directed to communicate to you the following instructions on the subject:—

2. The manner in which you have received Meer Nusseer Khan's proposal for the cession of his own share, and that of the late Ameer Noor Mahomed Khan, in the revenues of Shikarpore, in part liquidation of their portion of the tribute payable to the British Government, is considered to be perfectly judicious; and the proposition in the terms indicated in your letter has appeared to his Lordship in Council to be worthy of acceptance, that is to say, the British Government is willing to accept a perpetual lease of the Hyderabad share of Shikarpore, paying annually for the same one-fifth more than the average net income derived by the Ameers Noor Mahomed Khan and Nusseer Khan during the last five or ten years, or any other period for which you have the means of striking an average.

3. It is impossible to predict whether such an arrangement will, in a pecuniary point of view, prove a good bargain to the British Government or not; but the advantages expected to result therefrom are clear and manifold, and they are of a nature calculated to benefit the Ameers of Hyderabad, as well as all the neighbouring States, by the encouragement and security of trade, which will attend the establishment of a British administration at that great entrepôt, and the prosperity which an increase of commerce will ensure for the surrounding countries. But his Lordship in Council will be better able to judge of the value for such local purposes of this possession, when he shall have had before him a sketch of the boundaries of the district of Shikarpore, and he begs you to furnish such sketch with as little delay as possible.

4. The retention by Meer Nusseer Khan and the widow of Meer Noor Mahomed Khan of the nominal sovereignty of Shikarpore, does not appear to the Governor-General in Council to be a point of so much importance as to induce him to offer any serious objection to it, if insisted upon by Meer Nusseer Khan, though considering how recently the Ameer had acquired a right of sovereignty, and that it was only a divided right, the pretension might, perhaps, as well have been waived, though the only inconvenience likely to result from its admission is the particular prerogative of coining, which Meer Nusseer Khan is averse to forego; it is, however, presumed, that he only wishes his mint to be preserved as a sign of sovereignty, and not as an establishment for active coinage. It would be impossible to allow him to have an effective mint of his own, which would imply a control over the currency, in a town under the direct government of British functionaries. Possibly he may not insist on this point, and, if necessary, you may assure him, that, on its relinquishment, you will engage that no other mint shall at any future time be established at Shikarpore without his consent or that of his successors.

5. You are authorized, without loss of time, to bring this negotiation to a close, drawing out papers of engagement, to the effect indicated in your letter, as to the rate of annual payment; and when the precise sum to be paid yearly shall be ascertained, these papers may be exchanged for others in which the actual sums to be yearly credited to Meer Nusseer Khan and the heirs of Noor Mahomed Khan, on account of Shikarpore, may be declared a permanent deduction from their respective tributes.

6. You are requested to state at what time you propose that the actual transfer of the territorial charge of Shikarpore shall be made.

7. Your suggestions respecting the Khyrpore share of Shikarpore appear to be judicious; and the question of obtaining a transfer of that also may lie over till we are more accurately informed of the actual income which it yields to the Khyrpore Ameers.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 300.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Kurachee, July* 24, 1

I HAVE the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, the copy of a letter from Brigadier Farquharson, commanding in Lower Sinde, with inclosures, representing the great disadvantage which the bazaars of the Kurachee camp labour under, in comparison with those at Sukkur, in consequence of the vicinity of the latter to the Indus, which enables* the importation of supplies exempt from duty.

Notwithstanding the Ameers of Hyderabad had positively directed a considerable reduction in the exactions of their Custom farmers on inland supplies for the Kurachee camp, as reported in my dispatch to you, dated the 6th of April, 1840, still, the farmers, being subject to so many different rulers, who exercise no united system of control (through whose Chokees supplies have to pass, where there is no immediate protection against their exactions, which are so vaguely defined), pay but little respect to the Ameers' purwannas, and the evil continues as heretofore; and nothing, it appears, short of total exemption from duty of all articles entering the British camp, can remove it.

As, however, the Treaty with this Durbar stipulates for exemption for those articles only which are landed from the Indus, for the use of the British camps, which does not apply to the station of Kurachee, I am necessitated to solicit his Lordship's instructions, as to whether I should negotiate for such an exemption, and how far I may be warranted to insist upon it, under such limitations as may be necessary to protect the irrevenues from the imposition which otherwise might arise therefrom, should I fail in obtaining the free acquiescence of the Ameers.

It appears to me, that all that would be required to protect their Highnesses from fraud, is to permit them to levy any taxes they please, on all articles exported from camp into the neighbouring town, or elsewhere, the Commanding Officer being directed to give every necessary aid to their officers to prevent smuggling from the cantonment.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 301.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Kurachee, July* 26, 1841

WITH reference to the allusions in my late diaries to the practice of melting Company's rupees for the purpose of re-coining those of Sinde, which had come to light, I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, copies of my correspondence with the Ameers in consequence, wherein their Highnesses pledge themselves to prohibit its continuance, which I hope may meet with his Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

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* Sic in orig.

No. 302.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, July* 26, 1841.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, under date the 23rd ultimo, with its inclosures, which I have had the honor to lay before the Governor-General in Council, and am directed to inform you in reply, that your proceedings in the negotiation of a Treaty with Meer Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, are approved and confirmed by his Lordship in Council.

2. These proceedings are considered to reflect much credit on your zeal and discretion, and his Lordship in Council is highly gratified by the testimony which you bear to the friendly and disinterested spirit with which your endeavours to reconcile the differences of Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Shere Mahomed Khan have been seconded by Meer Meer Mahomed Khan. You are authorized to communicate to that chieftain the Governor-General's admiration of his good qualities, and the high sense which his Lordship entertains of his devotion to the British alliance, and of the spirit with which his influence is exerted to promote harmony and good feeling among the other Ameers.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 303.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, August* 2, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 28th June, with its inclosures, on the subject of the disturbed state of the Shikarpore frontier, explaining the circumstances of the case, and exonerating the Hyderabad Durbar from all blame.

2. In reply, I am directed to state, that in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, great allowance is to be made for any failure on the part of the agents of the Hyderabad Ameers at Shikarpore, to conduct the affairs of that district in a manner that would be entirely satisfactory; and it would appear from your statement that, considering the difficulties of their position, their management has been as efficient as under the circumstances of the case we had a right to expect.

3. The discussion of these questions will, however, prove of some advantage if it lead to the more easy and early accomplishment of the transfer of the administration of Shikarpore to the British Government, which in my letter to your address of the 5th ultimo, you were authorized to effect.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 304.

The Political Agent in Sinde and Beloochistan to Captain Leckie.

Sir, *On board the "Comet" Steamer, August* 18, 1841.

YOUR long and intimate intercourse with the Ameers of Hyderabad, and knowledge of the policy which has guided Colonel Pottinger and myself in all our measures connected with that Court, render any instructions unnecessary for your own guidance, and the few remarks I now address to you, are intended more for record, and for the information of those you may have occasionally to place in temporary charge, than for your own.

2. The official demeanour of the British officers politically connected with the Ameers, towards their Highnesses, should be frank, friendly, unassuming and respectful, while no undue assumption would be attempted on their part;

in fact, on the personal equality of gentlemen; while the official respect due to the latter as sovereigns of the country, and to the former as representatives of the British Government, should never be lost sight of. The noblemen and gentlemen of the Court should, of course, also be treated with the equality of gentlemen; and, when they visit the Residency or meet you elsewhere, received with the cordiality which evinces that you value them individually: but, with the exception of occasionally returning the visits of the near relations of the Ameers (when not at variance with their Highnesses), and of Nawabs Ahmed Khan and Mahomed Khan, I would restrict my visiting intercourse to that extent; for, studiously to cultivate the friendship of the minor chieftains would excite the jealousy of the Ameers, and the habit of general visiting would soon render that attention on the part of the British officers valueless, and would excite bad feelings where those who thought themselves equally entitled with the others, happened to be neglected; besides, moreover, seriously interfering with the time that ought to be devoted to public business. On this point I differ from my predecessor, but the nature of our footing in this country is very materially changed since he thought it an object to seek the friendship of the chieftains by these means.

3. All communications on matters of business should be by letter, except such as are of so trifling a nature that the messenger could have no interest in distorting their meaning (but occasionally when visiting their Highnesses you might test the integrity of the intermediate agents even in such trifles, by mentioning casually that such and such messages had been received and sent); ostensible business should be avoided on your visits to the Ameers, as much as possible, being apparently merely to display friendship would render such visits the more appreciated and less irksome; but wherever the matter to be transacted is of a serious nature, you should communicate it personally, previously warning their Highnesses (if not likely to thwart your object) of the nature of the intended communication, and leaving it at their option to receive you publicly or in private; otherwise your communication should be by yaddasht (written memorandum); when on general subjects addressed to the Durbar generally (Sinde Sirkar), but when on matters connected more particularly with any individual Ameer, to be addressed to him.

4. No complaints of Sinde subjects against any but British or foreign subjects, should be entertained for a moment, or the grievances of minor chieftains, which may be endeavoured to be laid before the Political Agent, received on any account; all such should be invariably referred to their own Government, and the complainants given distinctly to understand that we have no concern in such affairs.

5. Disputes among the Ameers themselves should not be interfered with in any way, while confined to mere threatening and words, but when either party proceeds to the length of actually levying troops (beyond their immediate personal followers, whom they are in the habit of constantly sending for on every trifling pretext) the party should be warned that any aggression on his part against any of the other Ameers, will place him in the predicament of having infringed his treaty with the British Government, and render him liable to such consequences as that Power may choose to impose, at the same time that forcible acquisitions from any of the chiefs guaranteed by treaty, would not only not be permitted to be retained, but actually would put in jeopardy the confiscation of his own State. Whenever the dispute between the guaranteed Ameers is of so serious a nature as would have required an appeal to arms under other circumstances, it must now be laid before the Political Agent who will receive the orders of the Governor-General as to its settlement; but such appeals should not be encouraged, and generally, when made, are of such a nature that a word from the Political Agent will effect an agreement which probably both parties may be desirous of at heart, although pride prevents either from making the overture, or admitting the mediation of their equals, which, however, need not be wounded by the mediation of so disinterested and distinct a party as the Political Agent, at whose recommendation the mediation of one of the other Ameers could then be received and given without scruple.

6. Every occasion should be taken, however, to inculcate on the Sinde Durbar the extreme reluctance of the British Government to interfere in the concerns of the State, and that nothing will induce us to do so, except where bound by our guarantee, or the peace of the country is threatened, which, on

no consideration, can we allow to be disturbed, for thereby the safety of the river would be risked, to preserve which also we are equally guaranteed to the world. The mode in which the disputes between the Meers Nusseer Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan were warded off, and at last brought to an amicable conclusion, is a practical illustration of the manner in which such disputes should, I consider, be dealt with.

7. When called upon to interfere in the family contentions of the Ameers, the utmost repugnance to do so should be evinced, both from motives of delicacy to the feelings of their Highnesses, and from anxiety to uphold their personal dignity, which must suffer in the eyes of their subjects by the public exposure of their domestic affairs, to the interference of strangers. My ideas as to the course to be pursued in such cases may be best explained by reference to my late proceedings in the disputes between the sons of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan.

8. The above will suffice for a general guide to the officer in charge at Hyderabad, as to his intercourse with the Chiefs and Government; and it only remains to notice the points still pending, to which your attention should be directed.

9. The boundary settlement between Meers Nusseer Khan and Shere Mahomed Khan, having been declared to me verbally, by both parties, as nearly completed, and that what remains to be done is, by mutual agreement, submitted to the arbitration of Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, absolves us from the necessity for further interference in that matter; but it may be as well to obtain letters to that effect from both parties. Meer Nusseer Khan, at our last interview, promised to furnish, and Meer Meer Mahomed to get, Meer Shere Mahomed Khan's Razenama, so I anticipate no difficulty to your obtaining them.

10. An attempt was made on the same occasion to obtain a removal of the restriction I had imposed to the members of the Ismael Shah family having official intercourse with the Agency. I had no scruple to sanction the release of Suliman Shah (the member of it who committed the forgery of my seal, which led to that interdict), but you are aware of my real motive for continuing their exclusion until the compact I require is entered into by every member of the family; but on every occasion of your being spoken to on the subject, I wish you to express the great respect I entertain for the heads of that family personally, particularly Zynoolabdeen Shah, Sadig Shah, and Tukkee Shah; but that, without their pledge, in common with the inferiors of the family, I can have no reliance that the intrigues which called for the imposition of the compact may not be renewed by those persons, if the higher members of the family, in whom I have the utmost confidence, were not thus personally pledged to prevent them.

11. I would call your attention to the impropriety of strangers, passing through the country, visiting the Ameers on every occasion, a practice which, if commonly resorted to, would prove irksome to their Highnesses, and perhaps hurtful to their feelings, as being made a sort of show of. You will have observed that I generally found some pretext for refusing the application of gentlemen to attend the Durbar, and never allowed them to go except with myself. I wish you would generally discourage such intrusion, except on occasions of public ceremony, when the Ameers might be flattered rather than otherwise by the attendance of foreign visitors (after first ascertaining, however, whether the visit would be agreeable), but when officers of rank and consideration arrive at Hyderabad, it is as complimentary for them to offer, as it ought to and would be, I have no doubt, agreeable to their Highnesses to receive, such visits. I beg, however, you will distinctly prohibit the habit of giving or receiving presents on such occasions, even to officers of the highest rank, which I have repeatedly told the Ameers is quite unnecessary to mark their respect and goodwill, while at the same time, I always assure them that I make known their desire to confer presents, and take upon myself the prohibition.

12. In conclusion, I request that as a trifling mark of my gratification with the very friendly tone in which every discussion that has passed between the Hyderabad Durbar and myself, during the eighteen months I have had the happiness to be connected with that Court, has been conducted, you will deliver presents of cloths in my name to the following persons, who have chiefly been employed in all verbal communications with me, viz.:—

To Chotram, Durbar Moonshee, to the value of Hyderabad rupees, 200.

To Khoob Chund, Moonshee of his Highness Meer Meer Mahomed Khan, Hyderabad rupees, 100.

To Sulametrai, ditto of his Highness Meer Sobdar Khan, Hyderabad rupees, 100.

To Futteh Chund, ditto of Nawab Ahmed Khan, Hyderabad rupees, 100.

After intimating to their Highnesses my reasons, and obtaining their permission.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 305.

The Assistant Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, August* 19, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to annex, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, translations of agreements concluded between the sons of the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan; and also a memorandum drawn up and sealed by Meers Meer Mahomed, Nusseer Mahomed, and Sobdar Khans, as stated in the occurrences at this Agency during the past week.

I have, &c.,

J. D. LECKIE.

No. 306.

Treaty between Meer Meer Shadad Khan and Meer Hoossein Ali Khan, as follows:—

THAT that portion of Sinde and Shikarpore which belonged to the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, according to the will of his late Highness, and as approved by their Highnesses the other Ameers by the signature of the Political Agent, shall, with the exception of the Tappa of Shool be divided into equal halves between the contracting parties, Meers Hoossein Ali Khan and Shadad. If it please God, this agreement shall not in any way be infringed; moreover, we, the contracting Ameers, have, at the request of the Political Agent, renewed our intercourse with each other, and have become reconciled. In future, we, Meers Shadad and Hoossein Ali Khans, do engage not to bring forward any claims upon each other's territory. We acknowledge and accept the will of his late Highness aforesaid, and the present agreement; as the rule according to which shall be the settlement of all questions of boundary, of the bunding or the contrary of water, and all other questions relative to cultivation. If, which God forbid, any boundary dispute shall have arisen between us, the settlement of it shall be arranged by the arbitration of the Ameers, on the oaths of Zemindars of each Ameer. We will not hereafter entertain the servants one of the other. We will not permit any improper dispute to arise among our servants or dependents of any description, with the servants or dependents of any other Ameer. If any dispute shall have arisen between our retainers, it shall be settled according to the arbitration of Ameers selected by each Ameer; and in whatever relates to the government of our Belooch subjects, we will be guided by the advice of their Highnesses the three elder Ameers. All feelings of enmity we agree to banish from our minds for the future; and all rancour between our chiefs and followers regarding the late transactions, is, according to the present agreement, at an end.

No. 307.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee

(Extract.) *Fort William, August* 20, (No.64) 1841.

YOU will find Major Outram's report of the result of his proceedings, in accordance with our instructions of the 26th of April. It will be seen that Meer Shere Mahomed has entered into a treaty, by which he binds himself to pay 50,000 Company's rupees as annual tribute, and to submit his territorial disputes with the Ameers of Hyderabad, to the decision of the Political Agent.

This Treaty has been ratified by the Governor-General in Council, and we have intimated to Major Outram the high sense we entertained of his conduct on this occasion, and of the friendly spirit with which his endeavours to reconcile the differences of Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Shere Mahomed Khan had been seconded by Meer Mahomed Khan.

No. 308.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *"Comet" Steam Vessel, August* 21, 1841.

IN continuation of my letter to your address, dated 27th of May last, I have the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, my further proceedings in the negotiation for the transfer of Shikarpore, in accordance with his Lordship's orders, conveyed in your dispatch dated 5th ultimo.

2. Having intimated to the parties concerned, that their Highnesses' proposition had been entertained favourably, and that my recommendation, that one-fifth beyond the surplus revenue hitherto derived, was acceded to, although considered very liberal terms, I requested the Ameers would submit to me a paper, specifying the terms they propose, agreeably to our previous understanding; if approved, I would return a counterpart to be retained by them until final Treaties should be exchanged, when the intrinsic value of the transfer was fully ascertained.

3. Accordingly, a yaddasht, sealed by Meers Nusseer Khan and Shadad Khan, a translation of which is appended, was submitted to me, to which I objected, on the following grounds:—First, because too prominently exhibiting the names of the Ameers in Articles 1 and 2*. Secondly, because the 4th Article refers vaguely to a previous yaddasht for a scale of the expenses of management, to be deducted, which did not include all, and no limitations can be admitted. Thirdly, because in the 8th Article it is assumed for granted, that the amount to be realized, and, consequently, made good to the Ameers, must be two lacs or more, which, if nothing to the contrary were specified, would have provided them with a quibbling opposition to less being given in the event of two lacs not being realized. Fourthly, because not sufficiently explicit as to the mode and time of transfer. And Fifthly, because no specification is made relating to existing jagheers, immunities appertaining to religious institutions, &c., which the Ameers would thus have left us to resume, thereby throwing upon the British Government the odium of the measure, while they obtained the full value of the whole.

4. Accordingly, No. 2 was proposed by me; the whole of which, although

* Which, however, I found it impossible to induce an entire relinquishment of, and was obliged to admit, though in a more general form, in the 1st Article of my proposals (numbered 2 of A which embodies the 1st and 2nd Articles of the Ameers' propositions No. 1 of A). Their Highnesses are so particularly tenacious of the fancied honor of the nominal sovereignty of Shikarpore, that I really believe their principal inducement to make over the district to the British Government is the confidence that they thus secure its continuance as a nominal appendage of theirs, which, otherwise, they fancy would sooner or later be reannexed to the Affghan Empire. I could not, therefore, venture to ask them to forego this point, which the 4th paragraph of your dispatch leaves to my discretion, especially as the only serious objection urged by his Lordship is removed by Article 5 of No. 2, prohibiting coinage,

an attempt was made to alter some points previously agreed to by them in No. 4* in their counter propositions No. 3, has been virtually acceded to, with the exception of the 2nd Article, by the admission of my Memorandum B, the 2nd paragraph of which officially tenders the terms contained in No. 2, with the addition of a supplementary Article, intended to remove the objections to the 2nd Article alluded to, and which, of all the terms in No. 2, is the only one harped on by Meer Nusseer Khan in his reply, wherein, though still advocating the justice of estimating the value by the last year's produce, or, which he also offers, the last two years, *i. e.* 1256, A.D. 1839-40, and 1257, 1840-41, His Highness leaves it to his Lordship to decide, whether more or less than that amount is to be given.

5. Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of the proposed Treaty, No. 2 of A should, I think, therefore, be considered settled; and it only remains to be decided by his Lordship,—1st, whether the 2nd Article thereof should be insisted on in its original form, as previously agreed to in the 5th Article of the Ameers' Memorandum No. 1 of A, or with the modification specified in the supplementary Article submitted with my Memorandum B; 2nd, whether the Ameer's claim for the rate to be fixed according to the last year's revenues, 1257, A.D. 1840-41, shall be admitted in supercession of the above Articles; 3rd, or whether the Ameer's last proposition for the average of the last two years 1256 and 1257, shall be acceded to.

6. We may, perhaps, legally insist on the first, as having been proposed, signed, and sealed; but I doubt whether it would be politic or fair, for we thereby display a greater regard to our own interests than to the advantageous arrangement for both parties which was held out in the previous correspondence with their Highnesses on the subject, wherein it was promised that the average should be at the highest rate of revenue heretofore realized; and, therefore, I would recommend agreeing to the Ameers' last proposition for the average of the past two years, especially as I believe we should have the greatest difficulty in obtaining full accounts for five years back, and then not until falsified, which, too, I have little doubt will be those of the last two years; but, by inquiry among the parties from whom the revenue was realized, which Captain Postans will now have an opportunity of making personally, any alterations that have been made in the accounts we shall receive, as to the amount obtained from such persons, will be more easily detected and proved in the past one or two years than in those more distant.

7. Much mean shuffling on the part of the Ameers will be observed throughout the correspondence latterly, in order to secure last year's rate, which the Kardars have shewn (in their eagerness to dissuade their masters from making the transfer) to have been much greater than heretofore, whether truly, or by false accounts, remains to be proved hereafter; but although of the opinion above stated, I have not acquiesced or departed from my original proposition for an average of the last five years, further than by admitting a second average to be struck between that and the revenue of the last year, if proved that "such representations (of great increase) are founded on fact," on the ground advanced by the Ameer that progressive improvement may be expected, in reply to my objections, to which, when I remarked, in discussing the matter verbally with his Highness in public Durbar on the 15th instant, that it was equally likely the revenues would decrease with the withdrawal of the greater portion of the troops, which during the past three years had caused such increasing demand, the Ameer observed, "Whenever it is found that you lose by the bargain, I pledge myself to take the country back again," in order to preserve an appearance of consistency; but should the term of five years be receded from, and the revenues of two or one year be received as data instead, the concession may appear to emanate from the Governor-General, to whose decision the point is therefore referred, I having given the Ameers to understand that it was not left to my discretion to allow of any more limited test than that of five years.

8. In the meantime, however, I shall make another proposal to Meer

* For instance in the Article relating to the coinage, it is added (after admitting that neither party shall coin without consent of the other—all that was necessary to effect our object of preventing any coinage,) that, if any coinage is carried on, it is to be in Sinde currency, although their own 3rd Article in No. 1 had simply stated, "The practice of coining money in the city of Shikarpore is to be withheld from both British and Sinde Governments. If one Government should wish to coin, permission must be obtained from the other Government."

Nusseer Khan, which, if acceded to, will remove much difficulty in securing a fair estimate; it is, that the agricultural year now commenced, *i. e.* including the harvest preceding (Khuree or autumnal) and that following (Rubbee or spring) the date of transfer (February next), the proceeds of which are to be carried to our account, and the collections thereof Captain Postans is authorized personally to supervise, be taken with the two last years (or last) from which to estimate the average.

9. Although Meer Nusseer Khan's name alone appears in these negotiations, Meers Shahdad Khan and Hoossein Ali Khan, the former by letter, and the latter verbally in public Durbar (which he is ready to confirm in writing at any time) have fully authorized his Highness to act on their behalf, and bound themselves to abide by his decision. Meer Noor Mahomed Khan's widow, their mother, being otherwise provided for to her satisfaction, has no voice in the matter.

The inclosures to this despatch, which I submit, for his Lordship's information are Appendix A to C, containing translations of correspondence with Meers Nusseer Khan and Shadad Khan, and proposed terms, numbered 1, 2 and 3; D, account of revenues for the year 1256, A.D. 1839-40, given in by Meer Nusseer Khan; E, a demi-official letter from Captain Postans, containing that officer's remarks on D, and estimate of the revenues of Shikarpore and dependencies; and G, copies of correspondence between Captain Postans and myself, relating to the period and mode of carrying the transfer into effect.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 309.

The Secretary to the Government of India to Major Outram, or the Officer in charge of the Upper Sinde Agency.

(Extract.) *Fort William, August* 30, 1841.

THE Governor-General in Council having received information of the lamented death of Mr. Bell, late Political Agent in Upper Sinde, and of the arrival at Kelat of Nusseer Khan, on his way to Quetta, I am directed to state for your information, that the sincere regret felt by his Lordship in Council, at the loss of so able and talented a public officer as the late Mr. Bell, is greatly enhanced by the reflection that the Government is deprived of his services at a moment when the weight of his authority and influence might have been of the greatest value in concluding those arrangements, which will be contingent on the submission of Nusseer Khan.

2. The Governor-General in Council trusts that the temporary vacancy in the office of Political Agent will not have made any change in the resolution of Nusseer Khan to place himself, as it is presumed, on no other condition than that of liberal treatment, at the disposal of the British Government; and, pending the final arrangements that may be made concerning him, it is the desire of Government, that he should be treated with kindness, and with such consideration as is becoming the position in which he now stands.

3. If these instructions should reach their destination before the arrival of Major Outram to take charge of Mr. Bell's office, the Governor-General would wish that all questions connected with Nusseer Khan's position should be referred to that officer, and his Lordship in Council will await the expression of Major Outram's views before forming any final resolution on the subject himself.

5. Major Outram's appointment as Political Agent in Sinde and Beloochistan will appear in the next Gazette; and he will hereafter receive instructions regarding the duties of his office, the distribution of his assistants, and the scale of allowances to be allotted to them, and the establishments: and the political charge at Quetta will be made subordinate to that officer.

No. 310.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Sinde and Beloochistan.

(Extract.) *Fort William, September* 20, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, dated the 19th ultimo, transmitting a copy of the instructions issued by you to Lieutenant Leckie, for the guidance of his duties at Hyderabad, also of a demi-official letter, which you have not embodied in the instructions, for reasons stated.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you, that the Governor-General in Council approves the tenor of the instructions issued by you in your official letter to Lieutenant Leckie.

No. 311.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Sinde and Beloochistan.

Sir, *Fort William, September* 20, 1841.

THE Governor-General in Council has had under his consideration your dispatch of the 21st ultimo, detailing the progress of the negotiations with Meer Nusseer Khan, for the cession of the management of Shikarpore; and I am directed to inform you that your proceedings relating thereto, have met with the approbation of his Lordship in Council.

2. The only important point which appears to have been left undecided at the close of the negotiation, is that which relates to the manner of calculating the amount of the revenue of Shikarpore, to which one-fifth is to be added to shew the sum for which the British Government will give credit to the Ameers in settling annually their tribute. Meer Nusseer Khan objects to abiding by the average of past collections, and would desire to take the last, or a most favourable season, as a criterion for settling the future value of the district.

3. You have proposed a plan of adjusting the point, which will include the present year, with one or two of the preceding years, as the period from which the average shall be drawn, and if Nusseer Khan accede to this proposition, the Governor-General in Council will sanction its adoption; otherwise, his Lordship in Council continues of opinion that, as the British Government wishes not to drive a hard bargain in this matter, but, on the contrary, to admit a fair rate of present produce, and one-fifth additional, as equivalent to the progressive improvement, which may hereafter be looked for in the revenue of the district, it would have been more satisfactory if the Ameer had at once acceded to the only fair mode of calculating its past amount by admitting the principle of an average for a period of years, instead of requiring us to adopt as the criterion of value, the produce of a year that is supposed to have been unusually favourable, and to expect in addition thereto, the same premium which it had been intended to allow on the average receipts. His Lordship in Council will hope that Meer Nusseer Khan, and the sons of Noor Mahomed Khan, will now meet your proposition in the liberal spirit in which it was made, and that no further difference will arise on this point.

4. But, whatever mode may be finally adopted for fixing the future annual rate to be allowed, you will be prepared, by these attempts to overreach, for a proper scrutiny of the revenues, and the expenses of collection, when the papers shall be submitted to you; and Lieutenant Postans will, of course, receive instructions to this effect.

5. There is no other part of your proceedings in the negotiation, on which any particular orders of Government appear requisite.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 312.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Fort William, October* 21 (*No.* 87), 1841.

WE have now the honor to report, that the only important point which appears to have been left undecided at the close of the negotiation with Meer Nusseer Khan for the cession of the management of Shikarpore, is that which relates to the manner of calculating the amount of revenue of that district, to which one-fifth was proposed to be added, to show the sum for which the British Government would give credit to the Ameers in settling annually their tribute. Meer Nusseer Khan objected to abide by the average of past collections, and desired rather to take the last, or a most favourable season, as the criterion for fixing the future value of the district of Shikarpore. Major Outram's plan of adjusting this point, which will include the present year, with one or two of the preceding years, as the period from which the average should be drawn, appeared to us the most liberal which could be offered, and we have sanctioned its adoption, should the Ameer accede to it.

The advantages of a survey of the Shikarpore districts having been pointed out by Major Outram, we have sanctioned the temporary employment of Lieutenant Terry of the Bombay Artillery on that duty.

No. 313.

Lieutenant Leckie to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Hyderabad, December* 20, 1841.

I HAVE now the honor to report to you, in accordance with the instructions communicated in your letter, dated 13th of October, and its accompaniment from Mr. Maddock, of the 6th of September last, the result of my proceedings in communication with their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad with regard to the camp of Kurachee being on the same footing as other British cantonments in Sinde, and the supplies for the consumption of troops being free from duties.

2. The annexed copies of translations of correspondence with the Ameers will make known, that their Highnesses have coincided in his Lordship's views, and agree that all supplies for the cantonment at Kurachee be free from duty. I conceived that the request of the Ameers for an officer of theirs to reside in camp might hereafter lead to disagreeable consequences. I therefore urged them to cancel this request, which they have done, I now await your further orders on this subject.

3. A copy of this letter and its accompaniments I will forward for the information of the Governor in Council, Bombay.

I have, &c.,
J. D. LECKIE.

No. 314.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Lieutenant Postans.

Sir, *Dadur, January* 10, 1842.

THE Lahore vakeel's candour is not to be too implicitly relied on; of course he will show you his letters, but it does not follow that he will show you all. He has established a correspondence with the Ameers of Hyderabad also, —all in the most open way,—the Ameers asking Leckie if they should receive his letters, &c.

But I find it would not be amiss if you could manage to intercept any of his packets after awhile, if it could be done without suspicion of their having fallen into your hands. We are fortunately becoming stronger at Sukkur and Shikarpore daily, or there is no knowing how far the Ameers might be excited by the disastrous accounts from Cabool when the truth can no longer be

disguised. Do not relax in the canals and other public works; we must show that nothing can discompose us down here.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 315.

Lieutenant Postans, Assistant Political Agent, to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Shikarpore, January* 17, 1842.

THE Cossid bashee has brought me some letters pursuant to my orders from Meer Nusseer Khan to Sawun Mull, to be forwarded through Jeikundass the Lahore vakeel; inside that addressed to Sawun Mull (written in the usual style and handwriting of the Meer's Moonshee,) was a smaller one closely sealed, having on it the words, "when perused to be destroyed." A translation of this is annexed, with copies of both in Persian (Nos. 1 and 2). This secret letter is in a totally different handwriting, and I think it exceedingly likely it may be the Meer's himself. The larger letter was in all probability shewn or made known to Leckie, and the inclosure slipped in afterwards. Its whole tenor relates, as you will see, to some private proceeding between Sawun Mull and the Meer, to cover which Jeikundass' introduction formally by the Maharajah is requisite, and the way in which it is to be done is pointed out. Whatever the nature of the private understanding between the Meer and the Governor of Mooltan may be, one thing is certain, that it is not honest, or why should it be known only to the parties? The expression, "secretly," (which I have underlined,) as opposed to "openly or apparently" is bad; you will see how these words are used in the translation. I have written privately and confidentially to Leckie on the subject to-day. The original letters must either be sent on, so as not to excite suspicion, and thus bring the parties further forward, or I must frame some stratagem to account for their disappearance; it being of moment not to show suspicion at present, I think I shall send to Jeikundass the official letter, keeping back the inclosure in the Meer's handwriting; for, if the original be not forthcoming, and you should hereafter deem it necessary to notice it, he (Nusseer) might deny the matter. There is also a letter from some agent of Jeikundass, a Moonshee at Hyderabad, but it simply recommends him to procure credentials from Lahore.

Translation No. 2.

"AS the English Sahibs do not like Jeikurun to remain at Shikarpore and* to be zealous in the *agreed* service, if you send a letter from the Maharajah they will agree to Jeikurun's remaining. Thus it is *my* opinion briefly, that you should write a letter yourself, representing that Jeikurun has asked for a letter of introduction, and you give him one accordingly, and he then, in the way of [under the colour of] friendship, will be *apparently* a servant of mine (or yours), and *secretly* will do the *agreed* service between us. In future the wishes of that friend on this side are sacred."

No seal; a signature written in the name, if not in the handwriting of Meer Nusseer.

Please to transmit me your orders on this matter as soon as convenient, for I cannot help thinking Nusseer is brooding mischief, and this force at Mooltan may have ulterior objects connected with this part of the world. If this is Jeikundass' motive for being here, the sooner he walks off the better. I will keep the original of No. 2 until I hear more from you on this subject.

No. 316.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *January* 21, 1842.

THE accompanying copy of a letter from Lieutenant Postans shows that the childish Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad is again intriguing with

* So that he may be zealous.

Sawun Mull, Governor of Mooltan. His restless ambition cannot resist any bait that offers, which gives a hope of our expulsion, and his attaining the chief station among the Ameers; and I think it probable that Sawun Mull, in holding out such hopes, is acting without the knowledge of the Lahore Durbar, of which I suspect he is ambitious to become independent.

At the same time, I have established various sources of information regarding the movements and intentions of the Sikhs, as must soon make me acquainted with the real nature of this intrigue, from which, however, I apprehend no harm, as we are gradually strengthening at Sukkur and Shikarpore from below, carefully avoiding sending back troops from hence.

I do not suppose the other Ameers are aware of any intrigue Meer Nusseer Khan may be carrying on, who would mistrust them, besides aspiring probably to the honor of originating our overthrow: it is not improbable, however, that Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, the intriguing Minister of Khyrpore, may be a party to the affair, and I have taken steps to watch his proceedings. I have instructed Lieutenant Postans to pass on all letters that fall into his hands, after perusal, also the officers on the northern frontier, to ascertain the objects and movements of the Sikh force at Rojhun, and the officer commanding at Sukkur to acquaint himself of any collection of boats, or other suspicious preparations at Mitten Kote or elsewhere on the river.

My charge is quiet throughout.

No. 317.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, January* 24, 1842.

UNDER instructions from the Governor-General in Council I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, bearing date the 27th ultimo, with a copy of one from your Assistant in charge at Hyderabad, announcing that their Highnesses the Ameers have declared all supplies for the consumption of the troops at Kurachee free from duties.

2. In reply I am directed to request that you will communicate to the Ameers the satisfaction with which the Governor-General in Council has received this additional proof of their friendly disposition, and of the liberal policy with which their administration is conducted.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 318.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *February* 2, 1842.

BEING relieved from the military support of Kelat, we could afford sufficient strength at Shikarpore and Sukkur, to maintain our position there against any possible combination; and, having the Desert for our boundary, a regiment of cavalry at Shikarpore, and the Sinde horse near the frontier, would effectually protect Upper Sinde from the insurrection of marauding tribes. Should it be decided on abandoning these countries, to concentrate on the Indus, I would recommend that the farm of Shikarpore should, on no account, be relinquished. Our possession of that city would tend much to secure our commercial weight in Central Asia, and the district would undoubtedly become one of the richest in the world, when so thoroughly protected by our large force there and at Sukkur, and so well peopled as it would then become by emigrants from the neighbouring oppressive Governments. By retaining the city of Shikarpore, we also protect the great mercantile firms from the capricious exactions of the Ameers, which at present hinder them from trading to the extent they otherwise would do with India, with which they would then have free intercourse, being guaranteed against exactions on the river, the advantages of which,

however, are, at present, counteracted by the Ameers retaining the power of proportionally raising the rates on entering Shikarpore, or passing through the intervening lands from the river; which, were the city in our possession, they could not be subjected to, the canal being now deepened to admit of boat-communication.

My late letters have shewn you that I have thought it politic to permit the Ameers to submit, through me, a request to annul the bargain, should they wish it, my object being to temporize for a time: never contemplating, however, that we should ultimately relinquish the most advautageous possession we could acquire on the Indus; more especially, if our boundary is to be confined to that river; our position there being on this (the west) side of the river, is a matter of no consequence, the Desert being sufficient barrier from Upper Sinde, as we could not locate troops anywhere on the eastern side of the Indus, without disagreeably encroaching on the Ameers of Khyrpore, at the risk of collision between our troops and their followers frequently occurring.

No. 319.

Lieutenant Leckie to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Hyderabad, February* 6, 1842.

I HAVE had an interview with Meer Nusseer Khan this evening, and delivered your message, as directed in your demi-official letter of the 24th ultimo. "You will point out to his Highness the unjustifiable proceedings of his agent, which, if they excite disturbances in the city, will infallibly render Meer Nusseer Khan personally and individually responsible for whatever losses should be sustained by the inhabitants therefrom; you will immediately call upon his Highness to send immediate orders to his officers at Shikarpore to abstain from any undue exactions, or other proceedings calculated to cause disturbances."

Meer Nusseer Khan replied, "What you have said is contrary to Treaty; the officer (Suffer Hubshee) is acting by my orders. If I choose to commit tyranny, I may; it has always been the custom in Sinde to make exactions, to remunerate some, and take from others; this custom I am not willing to alter. Do you wish to break the Treaty by interfering with my subjects, who are under my authority? Shikarpore is mine until Major Outram and myself exchange treaties for its transfer. Who dares make a disturbance in the place? If they do, it is my business. Pray do not interfere with the Treaty, which is like a wall or bund, which lasts until compelled to give way by force of water."

I replied that what I had said did not in any way allude to the Treaty; that this was a separate arrangement between his Highness and yourself, on the part of the British Government, for the transfer of Shikarpore, and that his injustice towards the inhabitants caused them to leave the place; which was unjustifiable, and would lead to disturbances. His Highness said, "If you wish to break the Treaty you do so by this message from Major Outram, which is contrary to the 2nd Article thereof, in which it states that the British Government shall not interfere with the subjects of Sinde."

The Ameer then went over the old story of Tukkee Shah, and his avarice and deceit towards him. On my saying his unaccountable proceedings arose from regret at having to transfer Shikarpore to the British Government, he replied, "No, not at all; when I give a thing, I never cavil about it as you do; and from what you have said, I begin to fear that you are making excuses to gain some other end." I added, that I was well acquainted with your sentiments, and that you were disappointed with the bargain from its being less in value than you expected, and that you would be glad to annul the arrangement. The Ameer said, "If it is too little for Major Outram, it is enough for me; and I do not care if you take it or not; I gave Shikarpore freely, when asked for it." I then added, if it was his wish, I would write to you and to Captain Postans to stop all proceedings for preparation of transfer until he received your instructions, which I thought would be to direct him to stop further measures pending a reference to the Governor-General; and, from the value of Shikarpore being so small, I knew you would recommend the transfer not taking place. His Highness replied, "Captain Postans may go on in his inquiries as he pleases, or not; it will not

affect me. I am ready to abide by my treaty, and pay the tribute without any reference to Calcutta. Do you want the tribute, or the country of Sinde?" I replied, that I was sorry his Highness put such a construction on your message, and that I was of opinion that he did not wish to abide by the agreement he had entered into regarding Shikarpore, and that there was no sinister motive whatever on our part. I would make known to you, all that had passed at this interview. He added, "Pray do. I am certain that Major Outram would never have sent such a message had he been here, and that he was guided by what Captain Postans had intimated to him; that officer was at liberty to carry on his inquiries; that he could not give Shikarpore unless treaties were interchanged regularly. I want to remain on terms of close friendship with the British Government, but do not like any interference, or anything which is in any way contrary to the Treaty." Finding that I could get nothing more from the Ameer, I added, I would write to you, and that I was certain his Highness would hear from you.

I have now, to the best of my ability, explained as near as possible what took place. The Ameer's manner and way of expressing himself, was most friendly, but I never recollect him (since I have had communication with him) so decided and free. Whether he is guided by the news of the late disasters I cannot confidently state, but it strikes me he is,—also that he is fearful of some sinister motive, or pretends to be so. Taking every thing into consideration, although the Ameer says Captain Postans may proceed in his preparations and inquiries, I will, after closing this, address that officer, and request him to go no further, and await your instructions. The point of our acting contrary to Treaty, taken up by the Ameer, has, in my humble opinion, its object, viz., that of getting off his agreement, and ridding himself from the upbraiding of chiefs and influential persons around him, for being the cause of allowing us to possess a portion of the country. I have acted strictly to the tenor of your communication, and hope you will be of opinion that what I have endeavoured to explain is satisfactory.

I have, &c.,

J. D. LECKIE.

P.S.—I hope what has transpired at the interview will be approved of by you. If I may be allowed a word, I think you have taken the precaution in time, and that the sooner we wash our hands of all interference the better. There is no doubt that Nusseer Khan's tone is higher than before, and that, if he pleases, he can do us just now severe injury. He has no intention of letting us quietly have Shikarpore as before anticipated and hoped for.

No. 320.

Lieutenant Postans to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *February* 9, 1842.

I DO myself the honor to report, for your information, that, in consequence of the continued vexatious proceedings of Suffur Hubshee and other Kardars of his Highness Meer Nusseer Khan, in the Moobarickpore and Roopur pergunnahs, the labourers and zemindars employed in the work of the Biggaree canal are deserting their work, in order to secure their property in their villages; the termination of this undertaking, which has hitherto proceeded so vigorously and prosperously, will accordingly be delayed, and possibly frustrated; should the Dewan Jeyt Mull return to Shikarpore as he promises, I may be able to rectify, to a certain extent, the evil committed; but at present there is no remedy, for if the Kardars were even inclined to assist me, the people would not, under present circumstances, obey their orders. It is probable his Highness Meer Nusseer Khan will be the ultimate loser in this case; but at the same time I cannot avoid expressing my regret at the want of foresight which prevents measures so eminently calculated to improve the country, and must beg to point out that no responsibility for the same can rest with the servants of the British Government: for all such occurrences his Highness is alone accountable.

I have, &c.,

T. POSTANS.

No. 321.

Captain Davidson, Deputy Commissary-General, to Major Wyllie, Assistant Adjutant-General.

(Extract.) *Camp, near Dadur, February* 10, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to report, for the information of the Brigadier commanding Sinde Force, that I received a communication last night from Sowcars Chubur Mull and Jeyt Sing, of Shikarpore, the securities for the due execution of a contract entered into with Moojh Mull, for the hire of 1500 camels to the British Government.

These Sowcars have represented to me that, in consequence of their becoming securities for a contract with this Government, the Dewan and followers of the Ameers of Hyderabad have not only abused them, but have placed five Sowars at their door, with the view of making them relinquish their engagement, on the plea that the contract in question tends to injure the interests of the Ameers' country.

Although they state that they have represented the case to Captain Postans, I trust the Brigadier will take such steps as may appear to him expedient to have the protection of the British Government extended to the Sowcars, and to prevent them from being molested in future.

I am apprehensive that the present interference of the Dewan may be the cause of delay in the camels being produced.

No. 322.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Lieutenant Postans.

Sir, *February* 12, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to transmit the copy of a letter of this date from Brigadier England, with its inclosure, and to request you will take immediate steps to ascertain whether the constraint of the Sowcars alluded to is to be attributed to the cause represented, and if so, that you will call on the Ameers' officers concerned, to remove the restriction complained of, on the penalty of holding the Ameers, to whom the parties belong, personally responsible; to whom, also, you will immediately represent the case, at the same time furnishing me with the particulars.

It is proper to be on your guard, that the Sowcars in question would very likely make it appear that they are coerced, on account of their concern in a contract with the British Government; whereas they may have rendered themselves amenable to punishment from other causes with which we have no right to interfere.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 323.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Lieutenant Leckie.

Sir, *Dadur, February* 13, 1842.

YOU departed somewhat from my instructions in your conference with Nusseer Khan, but fortunately he did not take advantage of the circumstance, so no harm is done. I told you to say, that "you suspected I would be very glad of any excuse for annulling the arrangement, because, &c., &c.," whereas you said, "Being well acquainted with my sentiments, &c., you knew that I would be glad of any excuse for annulling the arrangement," thus explicitly pledging me, whereas my letters to Postans and yourself, distinctly show that my object was not really to annul the bargain, but to temporize; and I particularly enjoined

that no pledge should be made; thus (in my letter to you), "This will give the Ameers hopes of keeping Shikarpore after all, which you should encourage in any way short of actual pledge, &c., &c. until the Governor-General can decide what policy to pursue." You were wrong, also, in delivering the message regarding the extortion of the Hubshee, as from me, which my letter did not direct, and was not intended. I wished it to appear a remonstrance from yourself in the first instance, founded on representations from Lieutenant Postans, because it behoved me, in communicating with the Ameer on such an important matter, explicitly to have written a letter to the Ameer, for delivery by you, at the same time that you personally explained my sentiments. This course might have brought matters to an issue at once—which I did not desire, my object being to gain time, which you, having apparently to refer to me for confirmation of your sentiments, on the Ameer opposing them, would have afforded.

I now send a letter for Meer Nusseer Khan, which take a copy of before you deliver, and say, from me, that in no tittle shall I allow Lieutenant Postans to infringe the Treaty by direct interference between his Highness and his subjects, prior to the transfer of Shikarpore, when mutually arranged, but that, as you before said, you are now authorized by me to repeat, that any disturbances arising at Shikarpore, or elsewhere, through the acts of his Highness' Agents, from which losses may accrue to the British Government, he (the Ameer) will be held personally responsible for. Also, should he, and Meers Shahdad and Hoossein Ali wish to annul the agreement, each should write to me to that effect, when I will acquaint the Governor-Genearl with their wishes, whose reply will be communicated when received, and that, in the meantime no further step will be taken by Lieutenant Postans towards the transfer. If, however, their Highnesses wish to abide by the agreement, it is necessary that they should at once furnish me with the necessary perwannahs to their officers, to deliver over charge to Lieutenant Postans when he shall claim the same.

In advising Meer Nusseer Khan, maintain the most friendly tone, saying, that I have expressed to you my extreme desire to save his Highness frmo blame and annoyance, in the spirit of personal friendship which I have ever entertained towards the Ameer.

No. 324.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

I HAVE received an account from Mr. Leckie, of what passed at an interview which that gentleman had with your Highness on the 6th instant, and as a real and personal friend of your Highness, I write to point out that you are mistaken in placing the construction you did on the message delivered by Mr. Leckie regarding the extortions of your Highness' servant, Suffer Hubshee, which was not any interference with Sinde subjects, but a friendly remonstrance to your Highness, that if such extortions were made on the inhabitants of Shikarpore as would cause disturbances there or in the country, and thereby loss to the British Government, your Highness would be answerable for such losses, if the persons causing them were your servants; but Lieutenant Postans has scrupulously abstained from interfering in the matter, and has refused to interfere between the Kardars of the Ameers and the people, who have frequently sought his interposition; but, as I am convinced that Suffer Hubshee has been acting without your Highness' knowledge, in thus exercising the extreme oppressions which have now been represented to you, I am satisfied that your Highness will evince your friendliness by forbidding a continuance of the system complained of.

Mr. Leckie informs me that it appears to him, that you wish to annul the proposed arrangement for transferring the farm of your Highness' share of Shikarpore to the British Government, if so, I request you will write your wishes on the subject to me; also that Meers Shahdad and Hoossein Ali, will write theirs, that I may refer the matter once more to the Governor-General, and, in the meantime, if such is your wish, the transfer shall be delayed until his Lordship's answer is received: otherwise, should your Highness and Meers Shahdad Khan

and Hoossein Ali Khan wish to abide by the bargain, send me the necessary perwannahs to your officers, to deliver over charge to Lieutenant Postans, and the value can be decided hereafter, according to the terms previously agreed upon.

No. 325.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Dadur, February* 22, 1842.

I SHALL have intrigues of some of the more restless Ameers to expose hereafter, Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad particularly, who has been especially active of late. I have every confidence, however, in counteracting all attempts at agitation, and in preventing any disturbance throughout the hot season.

No. 326.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary to the Bombay Government.

(Extract.) *Camp, Dadur, February* 22, 1842.

I THINK we ought to preserve our positions in Sinde as strong as circumstances will admit, during the season when our communication is cut off, or Nusseer Khan's (of Hyderabad) intrigues have been so extensive of late, that he must see he has committed himself beyond hope of concealment, which may make him eager to embroil others with us while our troops are occupied at a distance. I do not expect, however, disturbances, for, I trust to counteract Nusseer's manœuvres (with which view I shall move towards Sukkur as soon as possible); but of course it is proper to be prepared, if only for the purpose of thereby preventing outbreak.

No. 327.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Fort William, March* 7, 1842.

THE Governor-General in Council has considered the circumstances brought to his notice in late communications from Sinde, of the vexatious and apparently unfriendly proceedings of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad and his subordinates, and on this subject I am directed to inform you, that Government relies upon your prudence and discretion, to prevent any misunderstandings with subordinate officers of the Meer, from leading to serious discussions with himself, as long, at least, as they can be avoided; but that you will endeavour, notwithstanding, to act with such firmness and decision, in all your proceedings, in which those officers are concerned, as may convince them of the steadiness of purpose with which the objects of your Government will be pursued, and of its resolution to maintain its proper authority in the territories subject to Hyderabad.

No. 328.

The Governor-General of India in Council to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Fort William, March* 22, (*No.* 26.) 1842.

MAJOR OUTRAM having brought to our notice certain vexatious proceedings of the agents of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, we informed that officer, in reply, that the Government trusted to his prudence and discretion, in preventing any misunderstandings with subordinate officers of the Meer, from leading to serious discussions with himself; but we enjoined him, at the same

time, to endeavour to act with such firmness and decision, in all his proceedings in which those officers were concerned, as might convince them of the steadiness of purpose with which the objects of the British would be pursued, and of its resolution to maintain its proper authority in the territories subject to Hyderabad.

No. 329.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, May* 6, 1842.

THE Governor-General is led to think that you may have seen reason to doubt the fidelity of some one or more of the Ameers of Sinde.

2. His Lordship, therefore, forwards to you three similar letters to be addressed by you, according to circumstances, and at your discretion, to such one or more of the Ameers as you may have ground for suspecting of designs hostile to the British Government, and you will distinctly understand that the threat contained in this letter is no idle threat, intended only to alarm, but a declaration of the Governor-General's fixed determination to punish, cost what it may, the first chief who may prove faithless, by the confiscation of his dominions; but there must be clear proof of such faithlessness, and it must not be provoked by the conduct of British agents, producing apprehensions in the mind of any chief, that the British Government entertains designs inconsistent with his interest and honor.

3. The Governor-General doubts not that you will have given injunctions to those employed under you, to act in strict conformity to the direction contained in the circular letter of the 26th ultimo, and that you will be careful that those directions are constantly attended to in the intercourse of those gentlemen with the Ameers.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 330.

Draft of Letter from the Governor-General to the Ameers of Sinde.

Allahabad, May 6, 1842.

MY Agent in Sinde will have communicated to you the circular letter addressed, by my order, on the 26th of April, to all the agents of the British Government at all the Courts of India.

You will have seen in that letter, the principles of justice and moderation by which I am resolved to regulate my conduct.

But while I am, myself, resolved to respect treaties, and to exercise the power with which I am entrusted, for the general good of the subjects of the British Government, and of the several States of India, I am equally resolved to make others respect the engagements into which they have entered, and to exercise their power without injury to their neighbours.

— I should be most reluctant to believe that you had deviated from the course which is dictated by your engagements; I will confide in your fidelity, and in your friendship, until I have proof of your faithlessness, and of your hostility, in my hands; but be assured that, if I should obtain such proofs, no consideration shall induce me to permit you to exercise, any longer, a power you will have abused. On the day on which you shall be faithless to the British Government, sovereignty will have passed from you; your dominions will be given to others; and, in your destitution, all India will see that the British Government will not pardon an injury received from one it believes to be its friend.

No. 331.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, May* 8, 1842.

I SHALL have it in my power shortly, I believe, to expose the hostile intrigues of the Ameers to such an extent as may be deemed by his Lordship sufficient to authorize the dictation of his own terms to the chiefs of Sinde, and to call for such measures as he deems necessary to place British power on a secure footing in these countries.

Should it be resolved to abandon the Kelat territory entirely, I should the more earnestly advocate the assumption, by the British Government, of the entire management of the whole of the Sukkur and Shikarpore districts, on fair terms to the Ameers, as the means of rendering our power on the Indus invulnerable, by these important positions being secured from domestic treachery from the exercise of direct Government in the territory immediately surrounding them, and the resources of the districts, under proper management, rendering the troops occupying them, independent of foreign supply; as giving the British Government more substantial weight with the neighbouring States, from its power being thus permanently fixed; and as commanding the commercial intercourse of British India, the Punjab, and Sinde, with Central Asia.

No. 332.

The Governor-General of India to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Allahabad, May* 17, (*No.* 14.) 1842.

51. BEING led to think that Major Outram had seen reason to doubt the fidelity of one or more of the Ameers of Sinde, I forwarded to him three similar letters, of which a copy is annexed, to be addressed by him according to circumstances, and, at his discretion, to such one or more of the Ameers whom he might have ground for suspecting of designs hostile to the British Government; and I gave him distinctly to understand, that the threat contained in this letter was no idle threat, intended only to alarm, but a declaration of my fixed determination to punish, cost what it might, the first chief who might prove faithless, by the confiscation of his dominions; but I added, that there must be clear proof of such faithlessness, and that it must not be provoked by the conduct of British agents, producing apprehensions in the mind of any chief, that the British Government entertains designs inconsistent with his interests and honor.

52. I further observed, that I doubted not that Major Outram had given injunctions to those employed under him, to act in strict conformity to the direction contained in the circular letter, dated the 26th ultimo, and that he would be careful that those directions are constantly attended to in the intercourse of those gentlemen with the Ameers.

No. 333.

The Secretary with the Governor-General, to the Political Agent in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Allahabad, May* 22, 1842.

FROM the period of the Governor-General's arrival in India, his attention has been directed to the making of a large reduction in the number of officers who, under the name of Political Agents and Assistants, were employed, with considerable salaries and establishments, at a great public charge, in the countries beyond the Indus.

2. The number of officers so employed in those countries, altogether new to our intervention, appears, at the commencement of last year, to have equalled the number of salaried officers employed by the Queen's Government in Her Majesty's diplomatic service in all Europe.

3. The events which have become known to the Governor-General during the last seven weeks,—the fall of Ghuznee, the victory and relief of Jellalabad, the decease of Shah Shooja, and the divisions in Affghanistan,—now enable his Lordship to look forward to the future state of our relations with the countries beyond the Indus, with a more defined opinion than he could form, while so many military and political events remained in uncertainty; and his Lordship is now prepared to adapt, in number and in quality, the Political Agents of the Government, to the probable future demands for diplomatic service.

4. It is the Governor-General's present intention, that the diplomatic service in the several States upon the Lower Indus, should be conducted by one Envoy and three Secretaries of Legation, having respectively salaries of 1000, 700, and 500 rupees a-month.

12. The number of secretaries to be attached to the Mission, appears to the Governor-General to be ample for the performance of all duties of a political nature, which may ordinarily exist at Hyderabad, Khyrpore, and Kelat, as well as for all occasional services; and his Lordship is in hopes that hereafter some further reduction may be well made. It is by no means his Lordship's desire, that a Representative of the Government should permanently reside at any one of the places I have mentioned: on the contrary, the constant presence of a British officer at the small Court of a native chief, is calculated to lead to a much more minute intervention in the concerns of such chiefs, than it appears to the Governor-General to be fitting that we should exercise.

13. But it is calculated to have a further and very injurious effect. The British officer, whatever may be his character, when he assumes his office at a small native Court, can hardly be expected, when deprived altogether, for a long period, of the society of his countrymen, not to acquire some portion of the feelings and prejudices of some of those by whom he is surrounded, and to lose something of that impartiality of judgment, and of that firmness in action, which are required in a Representative of the Government.

14. Neither, under ordinary circumstances, would a British officer, constantly present, possess that decisive influence which would accompany him, were he only occasionally to visit the native Court when his presence was required.

15. It would be difficult for any one, so constantly placed in the public view, and enjoying, as far as he could, all the personal and domestic habits of an English gentleman in India, to maintain that impressive dignity which should be attached to his official character, while the mere fact of his constant presence would be an offence to a chief, recently without observation, as well as without control, and continually remind him and his subjects, of the great practical change in their possession.

19. It will, probably, under any circumstances, be considered necessary to occupy in some force, the fort of Kurachee. Some officer must be constantly resident there; his duties will be more analagous to those of a Consul or of a Commissary than to those of a Political Agent; and, considering the resort of vessels to Kurachee, and the necessity of retaining steam-vessels on the Indus, the Governor-General inclines to the opinion that the officer resident at Kurachee, should be a naval officer. Communications will be had with the Government of Bombay with respect to this appointment.

20. It is necessary for me to add that, on the formation of the reformed establishment, it is the intention of the Governor-General to bestow upon you the appointment of Envoy, his Lordship being perfectly satisfied with the zeal and ability you manifest in the discharge of your duty.

No. 334.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, May* 22, 1842.

THE Governor-General directs me to inform you that, although it will be his desire to confine our future relations to the States on the left bank of the Indus, yet the Ameers of Sinde and of Khyrpore, having dominions on both banks of that river, and the British Government having recently contracted engagements with the Khan of Kelat, his Lordship feels that it will be necessary, at least until the affairs of Affghanistan shall assume a more settled and satisfactory form, to retain a position on the Indus, and to have the means of acting upon both banks.

2. You have already been informed by my letter of this day's date, that the Governor-General contemplates the continued occupation of Kurachee. I am directed to acquaint you, that his Lordship likewise contemplates the continued occupation of the Island of Bukkur, and of the town of Sukkur, as a sort of *tête de pont* upon the right bank of the Indus.

3. The Governor-General is not without the hope that a very large portion, if not the whole, of the trade now centered at Shikarpore, might be transferred to Sukkur, were that town placed under a protective Government; and his Lordship is of opinion, that it would be much more convenient to introduce into Sukkur regulations of a protective character, if it were placed directly under our government, than if it were even nominally in the possession of our ally.

4. In any future negotiation with the Ameers of Khyrpore, you will, therefore, bear in mind that it is the wish of the Governor-General to possess the Island of Bukkur and the town of Sukkur, with such an ample arrondissement as may give every facility for the maintenance of a good police within the town, and for the formation of commercial establishments therein; regard being had likewise to the changing character of the Indus, and the necessity of providing for every variation in the course of that river which the localities make it possible to foresee.

5. The Island of Bukkur would be considered as a citadel and arsenal of the town of Sukkur, and should be rendered easily defensible by a small force.

6. It is the Governor-General's earnest desire to put an end, wherever it may be practicable, with any regard to our financial interests, to the system, whereby a native State receives protection from us, in consideration of a tribute to be paid to the British Government.

7. In most cases in which such a system prevails, it must be as much the real interest of the British Government to afford protection, as it is that of the Native to receive it, and the payment of a tribute by the Native State, however equitable it may be in principle, cannot fail to affect the otherwise friendly nature of our relations with it; to introduce much of disagreeable discussion; to occasion the frequent visits of the officers in the unpopular character of exacting creditors; and to attach to the British Government, in the eyes of the subjects of the tributary State, much of the odium of the acts of extortion by which native administration is too frequently conducted.

8. It would be very much more conducive to a permanent good understanding between the British Government and the protected States, if arrangements could be made whereby, either in exchange for territory, or in consideration for the abolition of duties burthensome to trade, such demand for tribute, on our part, might be altogether given up.

9. The Governor-General would consider that it would be a most desirable arrangement if, in lieu of all tribute payable under Treaty, or otherwise, by the Ameers of Sinde and of Khyrpore, such cessions of territory as may be necessary were made to us at Kurachee, the Island of Bukkur, and the town of Sukkur, and all claims to tribute payable by the Ameers to us, or to any other Power, were, after such cessions, to be cancelled, in consideration of the establishment of the perpetual freedom of trade upon the Indus, and of such other provisions for the freedom of transit through their respective territories as it might appear expedient to make.

10. The ultimate object of the Governor-General is the establishment of

unrestricted trade between all the countries of the Indus, the Sea, and the Himalaya, and the total abolition of all internal duties in that vast territory, compensation being made to the native States by the payment to each of a portion of the duties collected upon the frontier.

11. Much time may elapse before this object can be accomplished, and it may be necessary, in order to carry it fully into effect, (regard being had to the several treaties of reciprocity by which the Home Government is bound,) to effect a material change in the nominal relations by which the British Government in India in connected as the paramount Power with the several protected States; but you will always bear in mind that this is the Governor-General's ultimate object, and be guided in your communications with Native Powers by that consideration.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 335.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, May* 23, 1842.

I SHALL now proceed to Quetta as soon as I have received some further information which I have been expecting, regarding the late intrigues in this quarter, which I wish to be able either fully to expose, or to lay in such a train that Captain Brown will be able to follow up the inquiry after I go. There is, I consider, sufficient to convict Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and his namesake of Khyrpore, whenever it may please his Lordship to take notice of their inimical proceedings, which I purpose advising (in reply to Mr. Maddock's dispatch to my address, dated 6th instant) should be delayed for the present, for I fear so stringent a letter as the inclosure thereto might drive these weak Ameers to their wits' end from fear: all of them being conscious that they were already guilty, would very probably be driven by their fears of the consequences, so explicitly proclaimed to them, to commit themselves further; as his Lordship's declaration leaves no prospect of pardon for the past, they would feel themselves already amenable for the worst that could befall them. I purpose answering Mr. Maddock's letter to-morrow by a request to be allowed to defer the well deserved, and very necessary (ultimately) denunciation for the present, as in the mean time no harm will accrue from delay, the spirit of the intrigue being broken, and its further prosecution adjourned, *sine die*, and not likely to be resumed, so long as we are powerful in Affghanistan as they now see us to be.

No. 336.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, May* 24, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch dated the 6th instant, with accompaniments, and beg respectfully to submit, for the consideration of the Governor-General, the following reasons for delaying to deliver his Lordship's letters to the parties indicated, until I shall have been honored by further instructions.

2. I await the reply to Mr. Clerk to a reference I made to that gentleman regarding certain treasonable letters, one addressed by Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, to Sawun Mull of Mooltan, intercepted by Lieutenant Postans upwards of three months ago; and another addressed by Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, to Maharajah Shere Sing of Lahore, obtained by me about twenty days ago, on reporting the extent to which intrigues against the British Government had been engaged in by the Ameers of Sinde and chiefs of Beloochistan; and the ultimate result will be, I believe, the conviction, beyond a doubt, of one or more of the parties, on which I shall solicit the orders of his Lordship as to my consequent proceedings.

3. In the mean time, however, I consider that delivering the Govenor-General's letters to the suspected parties might not be attended with beneficial consequences, because, although expressing his Lordship's confidence in the integrity of the Ameers, they at the same time denounce the extremest penalties to all who may hereafter be found to have deviated from their engagements; consequently, if, as I have reason to believe, almost every individual chief throughout these countries has been more or less concerned, directly or indirectly, in treasonable plottings, all would consider themselves compromised, and, in mere dread of the consequences, might be driven to commit themselves openly, and together, who otherwise never would unite, or be induced to engage in any overt act of hostility; while not being openly committed, they would hope that their having listened to our enemies had escaped detection.

4. All such intrigues are suspended for the present, in consequence of our late successes, and the expected re-establishment of our power, and they are not likely to renew them so long as we are in such power beyond the Indus; no object would, I think, therefore be gained by *now* denouncing such proceedings, which not only might, I fear, precipitate what we wish to prevent, but would render those who are most deeply implicated, the more eager to unite the more lukewarm or timorous in the common cause, for mutual protection.

5. On the above considerations I propose deferring to make use of the letters referred to until I receive further instructions; which I hope, may meet his Lordship's approbation.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 337.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, May* 28, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to hand up, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, copies of correspondence with my Assistant at Hyderabad, showing that a balance of rupees 15,89,238 is still due from the tribute payable by the Ameers of Lower Sinde, and to request the instructions of his Lordship, as to what rate of interest should be charged for the period since due, should it be deemed expedient to impose it on Meer Nusseer Khan in particular, as the most remiss, if not on all of the debtors.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 338.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, May* 31, 1842.

PREVIOUS to my departure from Sukkur to-morrow, I have the honor to forward extracts from demi-official correspondence with my Assistants in Sinde, since my arrival here, in the beginning of last month, throwing some light on the intrigues, some of the Ameers of Khyrpore and Hyderabad have been carrying on of late, the further progress of which will be narrowly watched by Lieutenant Brown, to whom I have intrusted the duty during my absence.

2. Nothing very definite has been resolved on by the conspirators, neither do I think such changeable, puerile, and divided chieftains, are ever likely to enter into very deep and, consequently, dangerous conspiracy, or that such could be brought to maturity without transpiring, nor do I consider that anything of the sort would be persevered in, so long as no further

disasters befel our arms in Affghanistan; in the meantime, their machinations have been suspended in consequence of our late successes.

3. Among the accompaniments will be found copies of letters addressed to* Mr. Clerk, forwarding certain intercepted treasonable letters Meers Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad and Roostum Khan of Khyrpore addressed to Maharajah Shere Sing, regarding which I have yet had no reply from that gentleman.

4. I beg to annex, for the information of his Lordship, extracts of my dispatch to your address, dated 11th January, last year, relating to the previous treasonable correspondence of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, the leniency displayed on which occasion, renders his resumption of such practices now the more inexcusable.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM

Inclosure 1 in No. 338.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *January* 11, 1841.

WITH reference to the occurrences noted in my diary for the past week, I beg to submit the following explanation, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, of my reasons for giving assurances to the Ameers that all previous treasonable correspondence by their Highnesses is forgotten, and, with regard to the forgery alluded to, translations of my memorandum and of the forged letter being annexed.

The ostensible reasons for the first measure are sufficiently shewn in the memorandum addressed to the Durbar; but the real object, in addition thereto, was to give the Ameers a fair opportunity of freeing themselves from the shackles, the existence of such documents imposed, which they supposed would at any time, when produced, compromise them with the British Government, and must of itself, had they no other incentive to intrigue, and however well disposed otherwise to good faith, induce them to look anxiously for foreign support, against a Power with which they thought themselves in jeopardy.

His Lordship's object being, I am well aware, rather to prevent future intrigues than to punish for the past, which may be accounted for in great measure, by the Ameers' ignorance and mistrust of our intentions, I confidently trust, that my proceedings in this case, will meet the confirmation I have assured to their Highnesses.

Inclosure 2 in No. 338.

Extract from the occurrences at the Hyderabad Agency, Lower Sinde, during the week ending the 10*th January,* 1841.

THE Durbar being then re-opened, I presented their Highnesses with the memorandum recorded in the diary, relating to circumstances which had come to light in the course of the investigation into Jeth Anund's frauds, from which I had learnt, that certain papers, addressed by the Sinde Government in former times, before their Highnesses had learnt to appreciate the good faith of the British Government, were in existence †, and made use of by dishonest persons to extort money, and for other mischievous purposes; that, therefore, in the confidence that their Highnesses had long discontinued

* May 1, 1842, page 324.

† This particularly alludes to a treasonable letter addressed by Meer Nusseer Khan to the Ex-Sirdars of Candahar, which had been found among Jeth Anund's papers, which he had intercepted, but, instead of delivering it to Colonel Pottinger, had suppressed for a large sum of money; instead, however, of destroying the paper, as the Moonshee had pledged himself to do, he retained it, to hold *in terrorem* the Ameer, for his own purposes, who (the Ameer) consequently played into the Moonshee's hands, from a consciousness that it was in the power of the latter to ruin him when he pleased, by giving up the paper to the Political Agent.

such practices, now that the objects of the British Government were understood, and that they would never again be resorted to, and in order to save the Ameers from further extortion, I had written to assure them, that all former acts of the nature alluded to had been forgotten, and would never again be revived, in doing which, I added, I well knew I was acting up to the wishes of his Lordship the Governor-General of India, who had only the welfare or their Highnesses at heart.

Inclosure 3 in No. 338.

Extract from the Diary of the Hyderabad Agency for the week ending 10th of January, 1841.

5th January.—Letters issued.—To their Highnesses the Ameers of Sinde; informing their Highnesses that the charges on the late losses on grain, hoondees, and bullion, caused by Moonshee Jeth Anund, had been proved against him, and that the Political Agent had discharged him from the Government service, and recommended, that he should be confined until he makes good the losses to both the British and Sinde Governments; during which trial, it had become known, that he also had received bribes, and had kept documents addressed by their Highnesses to other chiefs, with a view to intimidate them, and extort money from their Highnesses, who were, therefore, informed that the past is forgotten.

Inclosure 4 in No. 338.

Memorandum by Lieutenant Postans.

Shikarpore, May 5, 1842.

THE following heads of information, on certain recent secret understandings between parties in Sinde and Beloochistan, inimical to the interests of the British Government in those countries, elicited from various sources, and at various times, are herewith submitted.

1. The progress of our measures in re-establishing our supremacy in Affghanistan, has been narrowly watched by our enemies in Sinde and Beloochistan; and there can be no doubt, from general report and distinct evidence, that a very general revolt against our influence and authority would have resulted from any serious reverse or disaster above the passes. Commencing with the Kelat territories, we have been informed that there exists a decided hostility to us amongst certain chiefs and influential characters, represented as resulting from two principal causes: the first, in importance, and most weighty, being the fanatical detestation in which we are, more or less, held by the Mahomedans of these countries generally; and the second, the restless and impatient character of the Brahooees and Beloochees as a people, leading them to view, with annoyance, the restraint which they imagine (particularly the chiefs) our presence imposes. Of those who have been most active in exciting and fostering these feelings, and who had organized a system of rebellion, the principal are said to be, Kumaul Khan, Iltazye, Meer Bohar Zehree, Gool Mahomed, the chief of Beila, Bejar Khan Doomkee, and others of less note; of these Kumaul Khan appears to have been employed as an agent between the disaffected Brahooees and those intriguing characters of the Hyderabad and Khyrpore Courts, who are well known to be constantly alive to the slightest opening for faction. Kumaul Khan came into Shikarpore and Sukkur, whilst the Khan's camp was at Gundava, ostensibly to settle private affairs of his own, but evidently with far different intentions; his brother-in-law, Meer Shah Newaz Khan, warned the writer of this in the most impressive manner, and with the most solemn assurances of the truth of his assertions, that this man was intent on mischief, and had sworn to him, that he would rather sacrifice his life than submit to the hated yoke of the unbelievers. After leaving the Political Agent at Sukkur, he proceeded to Larkhana, to pay his respects to his Moor-

sheed, a peer; but it is asserted, that he there received verbal communications from the Ameer of Meerpore, and (though not proved) probably, from the senior Meer of Hyderabad; of the former, however, there is no doubt. Kumaul Khan's character as restless, intriguing, and dishonest, even among his own faithless people, is sufficient to warrant the conclusion, that he is a dangerous and turbulent member of the Brahooee confederacy, and his brother-in-law distinctly states, that he (Kumaul Khan) will never be satisfied, or cease from intrigue, so long as he can find parties to embrace his projects. Gool Mahomed is so notorious an offender, that it will be only necessary to mention him, as connected with the correspondence which we are informed has passed between the Khan and the Sinde Durbars, at least under the Khan's seal, of which this man has a duplicate, under the lad's own name, of Mahomed Hoossein: of such letters Gool Mahomed is said to be the author, and is reported to be in communication with Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, and Meer Roostum (Futteh Mahomed) of Khyrpore. The plan of rising amongst the Brahooees, simultaneous probably with the same kind of movements in Sinde, is said to have been thus: Kumaul Khan on his rejoining the camp at Gundava, was to have taken the Khan to Kozdar and Wudd, the strongholds of the Shalawan tribes; certain orders sent by the Khan to collect forces for the purpose of assisting us in opening the road to Candahar and forcing the Kojuck, were to be differently interpreted, and any assemblage would have been for rebellion; the sword, in short, was to be drawn for "Islam" and against us; the reverse to our troops at Hykulzye, it should be observed, being the immediate cause of the Beloochees meditating an answer to the general appeal made to them, that they were disgracing their faith by remaining inactive against us. A demand for a certain sum of money from the British Government, was to have been made, in the first instance, to give a plausible colouring to the real object on foot. In what manner Bejar Khan Doomkee, the most influential of the Rind Beloochees in the lower country, was to enact his part is not clear, but that he was implicated is generally understood, and as a treacherous and restless, though shrewd character, as the head of the most lawless tribe in Cutchee, he would be as fitting an agent for the lower country as could well be found. The Wuzeer Mahomed Hoossein is represented as being faithful in his adherence to our interests, and being an inveterate enemy of Gool Mahomed, he never fails to expose him; a regular correspondence is said to exist between the Brahooees, and Beloochees, and the Khyrpore Durbar, (*i. e.* Futteh Mahomed Khan Ghoree on the part of Meer Roostum Khan,) and the Meerpore Chief, with Hyderabad also, though not so decidedly stated. Such, as far as the writer has had the means of ascertaining it, is the digest of Brahooee proceedings, bearing of course, on our measures, and only kept I believe, from being demonstrated, by the timely passage of our troops to Jellalabad, and other successes of our arms at Candahar and in its vicinity. The Khan, it is, I presume, almost superfluous to remark, has no voice in such councils; other circumstances have, I believe, transpired since obtaining the above information, which tend to corroborate it, shewing at the same time more fully the line of operations.

2. Tukkee Shah Syud, the son of Ismael Shah, and the most influential member of that once influential family, is kardar of his Highness Meer Hoossein Ali, at Shikarpore. Tukkee Shah professes to be at enmity with Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad; but this is doubtful; and as he proceeded to Larkhana at the very time we had positive intelligence of cossids passing with more than suspicious letters to and from the Hyderabad people and the Khan's camp, it is highly probable the real object of this man's mission was connected with the general scheme of rebellion, and that he was occupied as an agent of communication; at any rate, the reason of his presence at the above place at such a time is questionable, and his own and family feelings against us, being, for obvious reasons, very strong, he would be happy, under any circumstances, to lend his cordial aid to loosen our hold on this country, and to join in any scheme of rebellion or disaffection.

3. Meer Jan Khan Talpoor, an officer high in the confidence of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, was deputed at this time to Khyrpore, for the stated purpose of settling certain differences between the Durbars, connected with the proceedings of Nusseer Khan at Shikarpore; but the writer was

informed, from various sources, that he had other objects in view; and though their character did not transpire, they may be gathered from the fact, that a most cordial private understanding exists between Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Roostum, the Minister of the latter swaying the councils of both: thus, when the other concurrent circumstances are weighed, it is more than probable Meer Jan Khan was deputed to settle preliminaries; and the late communications from Khyrpore to the Punjab, alluding to the "very satisfactory state of the Nusseer Khan's mind" on the subject of plots against us, had their origin probably in the understanding on which matters were placed during Jan Khan's visit.

4. Of the whole of the Khyrpore Durbar, the most bitter of our enemies, and the most dangerous, because the most influential and able, is Meer Futteh Mahomed Ghoree; this man is allowed by all to be unceasing in his intrigues; he is represented as constantly in communication with the Murrees and other Beloochees, and the Punjab; as Meer Roostum, in his letters, is made to style him, his "faithful friend, the possessor of his secrets, and master of all his actions," he is of course, the organ of all correspondence using the Meer's seal to his own purposes; his treachery is no less notorious than capable of proof, and in the late scheme, he is allowed to have been a prime mover. No mention, I should observe, appears to be made in connexion with late proceedings, of Meer Ali Moorad; he has, indeed, repeatedly denounced the Wuzeer Futteh Mahomed; and as this latter is a staunch adherent of the other branch of the family (since his own interests are mixed up therewith), it is not generally considered that Ali Moorad would trust himself with Futteh Mahomed or his party.

Inclosure 5 in No. 338.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Mr. Clerk, Envoy at Lahore.

Sukkur, May 1, 1842.

THE inclosed is a letter I intercepted the other day, purporting to be from Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to Shere Sing. However, as the party through whom I obtained the information which led to the seizure, is inimical to Meer Roostum Khan, I was doubtful as to the authenticity of the letter, and sent it to Lieutenant Postans, who has seen much of the Meer's correspondence, for his opinion as to the seal, and for comparison with the writings in his office, from the Khyrpore Durbar. I inclose a copy of his reply, which pronounces the document genuine, and, if so, probably you might make some use of it; if, by any means, it could be inclosed with a fac simile copy of the seal and direction, it might be so conveyed to the Maharaj, as to elicit a reply, which would let us more clearly into the nature of the compact alluded to by Meer Roostum, and thus enable me to convict his intriguing Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree (for the good old Meer is in his dotage, and a mere tool in the hands of Futteh Mahomed), so far as to warrant our demanding his and his son's expulsion from Sinde at least (should the Ameer's connexion be overlooked); for, so long as his family remains in influence here, we shall never be free from intrigue. Shere Sing has, by your able management, been brought so thoroughly to identify himself with our cause, and has been driven to do such good service to the British Government, that now he will feel that he may rely on our support hereafter, and consequently he may, from late events (and since this intrigue commenced), have been converted from a suspicious friend, preparing to turn against us when opportunity offered, to a sincere ally, confident of our support, and fully decided on relying on it for the future. In that case, would there be no possibility of inducing him to seal his sincerity by showing the previous correspondence with the Khyrpore, Meerpore, and Hyderabad Ameers, on your confidentially informing him of the exposure, or to aid us in their conviction, by answering this letter, in such manner as must elicit a more explicit reply, which reply I would intercept; and I should be glad, at the same time, to obtain the replies of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, who are the only parties I suspect to have been in direct correspondence with Lahore of late; for I must confess I should not be sorry to afford Government grounds for making an example of the former, whose restless, intriguing disposition, and

whose hatred of the Feringhees, render him ever eager to join in any scheme which promises a hope of injury to us. One such example would effectually deter the other chiefs of this country from plotting in future.

The cossids from whom the letter was taken, carried another intended for inspection if stopped, and which was tied up in their clothes in the usual manner (this I also send marked *) but the secret letter was concealed within the binding of an old Sanscrit book (Grinth), into which it was neatly pasted, in such manner as to defy detection, were concealment not suspected through other clues.

The people employed to stop the cossids were instructed to give out that they were agents of Mr. Postans, with orders to seize and carry them to me, but on finding money on them, with which they were sure to have been rewarded by the Ameers, they were to take the greater portion, and give back sufficient to enable the cossids to continue their journey to their own country, the Punjab, rather than return to Khyrpore to confess their loss, which would gain them nothing but punishment they would expect, and then to let them go, on condition they never divulged that money had been taken from them as well as their dispatches, while they should invent some plausible story to account for the escape of the cossids, &c.; this would account to the latter for being allowed to go, to prevent the necessity of bringing them in prisoners, which could not have failed of becoming known to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, whom it is an object to keep in ignorance that the letters have been intercepted with the view previously stated. I have since ascertained that the cossids were too glad to proceed on their way without returning to Khyrpore, where no suspicion whatever has been raised, and I hope they may think it prudent to avoid telling the truth to their employers at Lahore, should they venture to return to them at all. To enable you to prove the truth or otherwise of the mode of obtaining these letters, as described to me by the party employed to obtain them, should you have doubts of their authenticity, the following is a description of the cossids given to me for whose return you might have scouts on the look out. It is now four days since they went on. One a Cashmere Mussulman, by name Mahundah (as I understand it was pronounced), a resident of the village of Sodeah, opposite side of the Chunab, from and close to Wuzeerabad, about twenty-five years old, fair, short beard, and of the middling size; the other a Sikh (to whom the book belonged), named Goordeet Sing, name of his village not known, but it is situated within the jagheer of Ali Buksh, Commandant of Artillery at Lahore, aged about forty, with beard slightly grey.

Inclosure 6 in No. 338.

Lieutenant Postans to the Political Agent in Sinde.

(Extract.) *April* 30, 1842.

"THE seal is certainly that of Meer Roostum, under the title he employs in corresponding with the Khalsah Government (Lahore), and the hand-writing is like that of several letters in my office. I should have no hesitation in considering it a genuine production of Meer Futteh Mahomed's, and in all probability written by himself, or one of his sons. It is vilely worded, and not the work of a regular Moonshee. The introduction of this man's own name so prominently, and the allusions to his family, coupled with the true position he gives himself in the Meer's councils stamp it, I think, as his; and it is just possible the unfortunate old chief Meer Roostum may be innocent of the matter, Nusseer Khan, his nephew, and that old rascal the Ghoree, doing the business in his name.

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Inclosure 7 in No. 338.

Literal Translation of a Letter under the seal of His Highness Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to the Maharajah Shere Sing of Lahore.

THE letter of that friend on the subject of strengthening and renewing former treaties, and cementing the confederacy, has been seen by the reapers of benefits, of high destiny, and propitious for time, Meer Mahomed Hoossein Khan, the eldest son of this friend, and Meer Nusseer Khan, the eldest son of this friend's brother, Meer Moobaruck Khan, deceased, and they are thankful and grateful for the same; but the case is this: in the former Treaty, which was drawn up with great care and earnest deliberation, and sent to that exalted in design, every minute particular under one head and with one design was not recorded, but verbal promises of mine with my seal, the seals of the above parties not being included. Also in that Treaty, the names of Mahomed Hoossein Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan are thus included, that after me, Meer Mahomed Hoossein Khan in my place, and Meer Nusseer Khan in his father's, shall inherit the country, and, according to the former Treaty, they should be subject to that Government, and hopeful of the kindness which has been extended to this slave of God; let us suppose this Treaty to be sufficient for these parties; but, if the satisfaction of that party be not provided for by that Treaty, let a strictly secret and highly confidential agent be sent with a sketch of a treaty in the name of the above parties; it can be clearly drawn up here, the seals of both affixed, and be returned to the confidential Agent, and the parties will call for a new treaty from that side; now, as to that which is written respecting the change of disposition and Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, full particulars such as are requisite, and called for to be given, viz., "this well-wisher must be aware of what his intentions are, let it be written what form has been taken," (what does he propose to do). Now I immediately on the receipt of your letter sent a confidential cossid with a letter, in my own handwriting, on this subject, to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad. Meer Nusseer Khan is firm and fixed in his own word, though occasionally through temptations of some parties, there is short-sightedness, and he said "that against this tribe, the mention of which excites rebellion in your mind, the Maharajah, from so far and large a country cannot assist you," certainly the Meer aforesaid had become desponding; at length, through the agency of this well-wisher, and great exertions on the part of the high and exalted sincere friend, Meer Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who is master of all the thoughts and actions of this well-wisher, the Meer (Nusseer Khan) has become stronger and firmer than ever; moreover, a pair of cossids from that quarter will separately arrive at that friend's; let his mind be perfectly satisfied on this head; now I would once promise, and so also does Meer Nusseer Khan, viz., let all friendship be abandoned with my other brothers, who, contrary to my opinion, are subject to that tribe well known to your mind, and do not look to that friend of exalted designs, so also with the brothers of Meer Nusseer before mentioned (Hyderabad), who, contrary to his wish, are mixed up with that tribe; except the open and usual correspondence, let none be carried on with these; now I depend on the kindness of that friend for considering this well wisher his sincere friend, and, obedient to his will, let the above be received as highly confidential; take also to your protection my Wuzeer with his sons, and consider him as a sharer in this Treaty; and this business, by the exertion of the Meer aforesaid (Futteh Mahomed) has been originally proposed, and shall be carried out; the above will exert themselves to the utmost; consider them as your servants, they will be grateful for your communications; what more is required.

Note, by Major Outram.—Not having kept a copy of the letter herein referred to, I called upon Lieutenant Postans to give its purport, and the circumstances attending its interception, to the best of his recollection. I have had no reply from Mr. Clerk yet regarding the intercepted letters, to whom I sent it.

Inclosure 8 in No. 338.

Lieutenant Postans to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Shikarpore, May 25, 1842.

HAVING had reason to believe that the sudden appearance of an agent from Lahore at this place, just after the announcement of our Cabool disasters, had reference to intrigues with the Sinde Ameers, coupled also with the questionable proceedings of Sawun Mull, in assembling a large force on the Sinde frontier, I kept a strict watch over the communications taking place between Hyderabad, the Lahore vakeel, and the Governor of Mooltan, and in the middle of January last intercepted dispatches to the Lahore vakeel from Hyderabad, establishing the fact of a secret understanding between Meer Nusseer Khan and Sawun Mull of Mooltan, to which the Lahore vakeel at this place was privy. An ordinary letter from the Ameer, through the news writer at Hyderabad, inclosed another in a totally different hand-writing, and, from its contents, must have been written by the Meer Nusseer himself. Its purport was this: "The agent you have dispatched cannot be located at Shikarpore without the sanction of the English. Let the Maharajah, therefore, write as if he wished to accredit Jeikerundass (the name of the vakeel) in my country, and thus he can be apparently employed as a news-writer, whilst secretly he performs the business agreed upon between us—destroy this letter after perusal." The letter in which the above was inclosed was duly shewn to Lieutenant Leckie, as it was in reply to a communication respecting the arrival of the Lahore vakeel, in the Sinde territories, but the secret dispatch was indirectly slipped in afterwards; the dispatches were resealed and forwarded, a copy being substituted for the original letter from the Meer, which I sent to you at Dadur. We were not able to obtain any reply; and indeed it is possible the vakeel suspected his movements were watched, and acted too cautiously for my spies. You will recollect your writing to Mr. Clerk on Sawun Mull's military demonstrations, which had the effect of casting great distrust in this part of Sinde, and his (Sawun Mull's) disavowing any other object than that of punishing the refractory Beloochees at Hunud Daejil and Rojhan, though there can be no doubt they had other objects in view.

Inclosure 9 in No. 338.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Lieutenant Leckie.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, April* 29, 1842.

YOU ask me if you are to dun Shere Mahomed for his tribute? certainly; and let him understand that you will be obliged to report his trifling to me, if he does not at once make good the balance. I know not what remains due by Nusseer Khan and Hoossein Ali, Shahdad, &c., but I see occasional payments noticed by Postans, and, for the reasons before given, I would not press them further than by saying, that it is high time the payments should have been completed at Shikarpore.

I send you an extraordinary production from Meer Nusseer Khan, with translation, which perhaps you may make something of, by shewing it secretly to———, who, seeing the mean shifts Nusseer Khan is having recourse to, may turn the tables by betraying Nusseer's intrigues, and assisting you to get hold of some of his treasonable letters. I do not, however, think the letter genuine, for it is not in Chootram's (Meer Nusseer Khan's confidential scribe) writing (apparently that of Sadik Shah, son of Syud Ali Shah); however, it may answer your purpose with———all the same, by pretending a confidence in him, in thus shewing him what he would see no reason to suppose you thought a forgery; neither would it strike him that it was so, probably, from the casual reading, which only you would allow him. I wish

you would worm through him the real object of Jan Khan's visit to Khyrpore, the real ditto of Tukkee Shah's location at Larkhana, &c., &c.; also what correspondence has of late passed between Nusseer and the Sikhs. I yesterday intercepted a letter, purporting to be from Roostum Khan to Shere Sing of Lahore, in which it is said, with reference to Nusseer, "You have written to me to inform you what are the real intentions of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad. On the receipt of your letter, I at once wrote to Hyderabad, and he is determined. For a few days past he had been hopeless, lest, if he opposed a certain nation, assistance might not be received from Lahore; but, from the endeavour of myself and my Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, he is now determined. His cossid will be sent to you separately." I am not quite sure of the genuineness of this letter, as it was procured through a channel inimical to Roostum Khan, but it was concealed in the binding of a Sikh holy book (Grinth), which was seized upon the messenger, as well as thirty rupees he had received from Roostum; of course keep this quite secret. Very possibly, if the letter is genuine, it may have some connexion with Meer Jan Khan's visit; and you may be able to give me notice of the dispatch of the cossid alluded to, as about to be sent by Nusseer Khan. We should have little difficulty in intercepting him, through the same channel, if warned when he starts from Hyderabad. After effecting your object with——, you may then give the accompanying letter to Nusseer Khan, in reply to his, saying that I am convinced it is a forgery, and have therefore sent it for his inspection; but there is no necessity for any hurry in doing so, and I should wish you to keep this back until you have established a raw on ——, under the smart of which he may disclose what we want.

Inclosure 10 in No. 338.

Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to the Political Agent in Sinde —(Received April 22, 1842.)

I WAS delighted to hear of your arrival at Sukkur; this letter gives me the opportunity of my requesting you not to forget me. In consideration of the friendship and alliance that exists between two great Powers, I have sent Meer Jan Talpoor to inquire after your health; he must have arrived by this time and paid his respects to you. I wish to bring the following to your notice. Ooberah Hindoo, fully relying upon you, risked much in performing good services for you, and brought shame upon your enemies, and exposed the treachery of your ill wishers. Ooberah being a good servant to your Government, I took him under my own protection, and now your enemies desire to lower the character of the "Sahib Logue," and wish me to give him up to them; although they dare not move a single hair of his head, still they press me to relinquish him. I therefore wrote a letter of remonstrance on this subject to them; if they do not then remain quiet I will punish them myself. Meer Sobdar has lately sent me a message through a confidential servant of his to this effect: that Ooberah gave a sealed note of mine to Moonshee Ali Akbar. If the Colonel, through the means of that note, which was mine, had fixed the tribute money on me, I could have said nothing; without doubt, I must have paid regularly, year by year, but as the Colonel never called upon me to do so, I thanked God and remained quiet. Ooberah by this transaction made me guilty, and now I want to have revenge by beating him severely, in order that in future no one may come forward as the advocate of the Sahib Logue. My friend, as Meer Sobdar has by the above confessed himself to be no friend of the British, and has shewn by feelings towards your Government, and as I have a respectable witness that this message was brought me, this is the time and opportunity of punishing him, by making him pay your tribute. So that by the will of God he will not act in this manner again, and pay you tribute regularly. An order for the tribute from you is sufficient. If I were to make Ooberah over to him it would injure the name of the Sahib Logue, on account of the good services he has rendered you, and because they now want to punish him on that account, else why

do I favour a mere Hindoo in preference to Meer Sobdar; by giving him up, I should prevent others from doing good services to the British Government.

Inclosure 11 in No. 338.

The Political Agent in Sinde to Meer Nusseer Khan.

April 30, 1842.

I HAVE received your letter, and was pleased to hear that you were well. As regards Ooberah, of whom you write, let it be known to you, that he endeavoured by his rascality to obstruct the inquiry into Moonshee Jeth Anund's case, taking from Seth Nao Mull, under a promise to give him certain papers which he had in his possession, 900 rupees; but, after receiving that sum, never having produced the papers, and even when he gave the paper bearing Meer Sobdar Khan's seal, through Ali Akbar Moonshee, to me, I only obtained it through the favour and friendship of a friend*. He frequently solicited my protection, but his petitions were disregarded by me. But if your Highness has a wish to protect any of your subjects, you can of course do so on your own authority. You have also suggested in your letter that, under pretences referred to therein, I should fix a tribute upon Meer Sobdar Khan. I have to inform your Highness that the exemption from tribute to Meer Sobdar was in consequence of the good and friendly feelings shewn by him to the British Government, and from no other cause, which the British Government will never forget, and, in consequence, the tribute money will never be imposed on his Highness; consequently, I cannot suppose that the letter now under reply can have been addressed to me by your dictation, therefore I send it in original to Captain Leckie, in order that he may show it your Highness, that you may know whether it was written by your order or whether it is a forgery.

Inclosure 12 in No. 338.

Extracts from Letters addressed by Lieutenant Leckie to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Hyderabad, May 3, 1842.

I RECEIVED yours of the 29th ultimo, yesterday, and had an interview with———last night. I put the letter from Nusseer Khan to you into his hands, and directed him to peruse it: after having done so, he said "This is Gleanchund's writing in parts, also that of Akoond Buchal. The seal is Meer Nusseer Khan's, and there is no doubt of its being authentic. The message alluded to as sent by Meer Sobdar to Meer Nusseer is false; the former wished some time ago to get hold of Ooberah Mull, as he engaged or proposed to destroy Meers Shere Mahomed and Meer Sobdar, and knowing him to be a worthless character, it was thought advisable to get hold of him, if possible, to prevent mischief. Since then nothing has been thought of the man; and if you please I will bring him to you, as I know where he is." I said I did not want him, and requested———to tell me his opinion of the letter, and if Meer Jan Khan, whose name is mentioned, had any secret message to the Khyrpore Chiefs from Meer Nusseer; he added, "There is no doubt about the letter, as Meer Jan Khan stops at nothing now; he is bent upon supremacy and catches at any little object to carry through his favourite scheme. He gave 50,000 rupees only the other day to an astrologer or conjurer, to shew the future to him. Meer Sobdar Khan has never imagined for a moment that he would have to pay tribute to the British Government. Colonel Pottinger never proposed it; Major Outram never alluded to it, except to find out Jeth Anund's business, which is all thrown into oblivion. You have never breathed it, and Meer Nusseer's enmity and jealousy has prompted him to get Meer Sobdar into bad odour by writing falsely. I have

* Meaning Meer Nusseer Khan himself.

not heard that Jan Khan had a message to the Khyrpore Chiefs, but it is very likely: no opportunity is lost by Meer Nusseer to show his evil disposition. I will make inquiries and let you know. With regard to Tukkee Shah's location at Larkhana, he said, "there is nothing more in it, than that Chunder Mull is in disgrace, and he is acting for him in that district." I then quietly hinted at Meer Nusseer's correspondence with the Sikhs, to which he added, "Meer Nusseer Khan corresponds now in every direction, and seeking his own ruin by digging a well for the purpose of burying himself [or being smothered, literally]; his favourite confidant in the Persian quarter is dead, but his son has replaced him, and arrived only three days ago; his name I forget, but will find out for you: as to the Sikhs, Suckoo Mull [this man is alluded to in my occurrences of the 20th April, 1842] has for some time been in the habit of writing letters as if from the Maharajah to Nusseer Khan, and has gained by it; however, something has gone wrong, and he wrote a letter as if from the Sikhs recalling him to the Punjab; this was a forgery. I do not know the tenor of the communication lately, but some time back Meer Nusseer proposed to the Sikhs that they should rise and kick us out of their part of the country, as the Affghans had done, and that they (the Ameers) would join; his having written thus to one quarter makes the conclusion he has written every where; he has so many irons in the fire that he is overwhelmed in his own imagined greatness. Meer Meer Mahomed appears to join, but he has a clean heart, and is a good man. Mahomed Khan Tora is the mischief maker, and guides the Ameer according as Meer Nusseer wishes. To prove that Meer Nusseer tries to deceive every one, his plot with regard to the Bakroo rupees was intended to impose upon the British Government, by which it would have lost from 10 to 15,000 rupees in a lac; but you luckily got hold of the truth and upset his measures." I said the value by assay on their rupees in Bombay is six per cent.; "yes, that is what the merchants of the town make it, and those very rupees are current now among poor people." Before leaving me,——— intimated his intention of making known the contents of the letter to Meer Sobdar. I told him I had thus sent for him in confidence to show him the letter, and that he could judge of its being fact or otherwise; he promised to come himself and tell me regarding the different points I had alluded to in the conversation, or if he could not come, he would tell one of the Moonshees; he thanked me for letting him see the letter, and added he would willingly furnish any information I might require.

The man answered fairly without hesitation, nor did he consider before replying to my questions: and am in hopes this will lead to something that may throw a clear light on what is going on. I will keep the ball up to the best of my ability, and I hope the sequel will meet with your approval.

Hyderabad, May 9, 1842.

Meerza Moonshee returned to Hyderabad from Cutch, where I sent him to deliver your letter and accompaniment to Meer Nusseer Khan. Meer Meer Mahomed Khan was present when both letters were read to Meer Nusseer, who was very much ashamed, indeed, and confessed to have written the letter to you, regarding Meer Sobdar, tribute, &c. His Highness said he would send you a reply, when Chotram joined him; also that it was his interference with Meer Moorad Ali, that poor Burnes and myself were allowed to enter Sinde, after having been sent back three times; that Meer Noor Mahomed Khan and himself permitted the British army to pass through Sinde, in spite of the remonstrances of their chiefs and others, who pointed out that they were sure to call down upon them the enmity of the neighbouring countries, particularly the Affghans. For all this, he has to pay tribute, when Meer Sobdar, who remained dumb, and shewed no friendship or interest in the British, is free; formerly, the Government used to send handsome presents and kind letters, whereas now they get nothing but dry salaams; whenever they order "Furmaish," it reaches them in about a year, and they know not what becomes of the articles they send to be repaired. The Ameers imagine, from the Governor-General's letter, that he is coming here, when Meer Nusseer intends making known everything that has transpired. The Moonshee tells me, he (Nusseer) was in such a fright, that he caught at every trivial point; and your imagining his letter a forgery, when it is not, alarms him as

to what may follow; also he fears Meer Sobdar may hear of it. Nusseer Khan kept the accompanying letter awhile, and when asked for it, by the Moonshee, previous to returning here, the Ameer gave it to him, without its cover, bearing his seal, saying, that Meer Abbas Ali had destroyed it, which he was very sorry for. Meer Mahomed said nothing, but was evidently quite ashamed of the contents of the letter. The many acts of madness done by Nusseer, and put forth by himself, in comparison to Meer Sobdar, would fill a volume; he is quite overcome with fear.

Inclosure 13 in No. 338.

Lieutenant Robertson, Superintendent of Sinde survey, to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sukkur, April 12, 1842.

LIEUTENANT GORDON has communicated to me instructions he has received from Major-General Farquharson, to stop my proceeding direct to Sehwan, and requesting him to recall me, should I have left Sonmeanee prior to the receipt of the letter.

2. My last communication to you, of the 8th instant, will have acquainted you with my having commenced the journey; and it is with great regret I find I must retrace my steps, leaving unaccomplished this route. As the fixation of Shah Bullawull, in reference to Sonmeanee, will be of great value to the verification of the many detached portions of the survey made by different individuals, and will be of important aid in uniting these and the tracts of country traversed by Major Le Mesurier and myself, into a general map, I determined to continue on as far as this place before turning back; and, as in so doing, any risk that may occur will fall, I imagine, on me only (being unaccompanied by any of our own sepoys), I trust this step will meet your approbation: my turning back suddenly, coupled with the report of our disasters at Ghuznee, &c., which will soon be abroad, would have caused great suspicion, and been received as the confirmation of a thousand exaggerations. It also appeared to me that, by coming thus far, I might have opportunities of ascertaining if any mischief is to be apprehended by the British Government from this quarter.

3. I arrived here to-day, and shall probably leave again in a couple of days, returning to Sonmeanee by a different road. The abandonment of the remainder of this trip, although unexpected, will probably make but little difference, for, on account of the intense heat, it would have been almost impossible to continue surveying eastward of Shah Bullawull; fever has already commenced with my own people and those of the country hired as an escort; and as I have myself lately suffered severely, I could hardly expect to escape many days longer. Furthermore, Oorned Ali Bootanee, on whom I depended to assist me on the remaining portion of the road, proceeded, a few days ago, to Hyderabad, whither he has been taken by a person belonging to the Hyderabad Meers, who came here from Luss. Besides Oorned Ali, some other men of consequence in these parts have gone to Hyderabad: this is remarked as a most unusual circumstance, particularly as regards Oorned Ali, who, as well as his father, the late Sahid Khan Choota, being subject to the Jam of Juss, have never been accustomed to make their salaam to the Hyderabad Meers. The reason given out is, that the Ameers wish the assistance of such force as these petty chiefs can collect, as they are apprehensive of the Affghans. I have no doubt but that this is a blind, and that, in a short time, that hostility to us, which unquestionably exists throughout the country, down to the very sea-coast, will be openly manifested.

4. I expect to be at Sonmeanee by about the 22nd instant, and at Kurachee four or five days after.

Note by Major Outram.—Lieutenant Gordon, in a private letter received about a month ago, but which has been mislaid, notices the altered tone of the Beila Durbar, and the inimical proceeding of Sirdar Rehim Khan (brother of Kumal Khan) and others in that quarter.

Inclosure 14 in No. 338.

Extracts from Letters from Lieutenant Leckie to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Hyderabad, April 13, 1842.

TWO or three of the Persian family have been in Bombay lately. Two have returned, and one is coming. They went to purchase kit for the Ameers, and most likely have kept a look out, while there, which accounts for what Postans has heard. Nusseer Khan is going a-head as fast as he can, and is trifling with the Treaty, as far as levying duties is concerned. He says he will levy on all the merchandize of Sinde, at this place, to make up for the river being free. Yesterday, I am informed, Shahdad and Hoossein Ali went to Sobdar, to point out the necessity of the Ameers being of one mind, and acting together, owing to the Affghans getting the better of us. Meer Meer Mahomed also went in the afternoon. The Naib Ahmed Khan was present. All this is at the instigation of Nusseer Khan, who keeps aloof himself; he is making a dead push to be No. 1. He is our enemy without doubt, and is making the most of our weakness; how he is to be checked by the other Ameers I know not; and it strikes me, ere long, we must interfere with a powerful hand; as the hot season approaches we may find the fellows getting bolder. A visit from you would have a wonderful effect just now, to check Nusseer, before he makes a greater idiot of himself; he has succeeded in getting all but Sobdar under his thumb, and, from his wealth, has the troops at his beck. Mahomed Shuzbee, who resides in Bombay, and corresponds with Jaffir Shah, is the man that gives all the newspaper gup that is twisted into queer forms by these people.

Perhaps you will think, from what I have written, that I am an alarmist; it is not so; my wish is to prevent their stupidity carrying them too far, and which must cause their ruin, with a good deal of trouble to ourselves. I hear Mahomed Dewan is at the gate; I fancy he is charged with money.

April 28, 1842.

I was told last night, that Nusseer said when he heard we had won the Khyber, that the Afredees and Patans were a set of donkeys, and should have thrashed us. He is well blown out with pride and conceit of himself just now. What I do not like is the old Chiefs of Mahomed Ali and Noor Mahomed going to his service and deserting others. He is, there is no doubt, spending money and sweet words at no allowance, and can afford to do so after all the *Zulam* he has committed. Should Tukkee Shah *be false*, I fancy that every assistance may be given me in finding out what is going on through his aid, as it is an object to the Ameer or Ameers, to let villains travel quickly from hence unknown to him.

May 1, 1842.

———— has this moment left me. He tells me that we must not consider Meer Nusseer Khan of Kelat our friend; that he has written a letter, which a man of —— saw at Beila, addressed to the Jam of that place, urging him and the other chiefs of the Hills, Ahmed Khan, Noomria, and the Takkia Chief included, and all the Sindees at Kurachee and adjacent provinces, to rise against us, should we be unsuccessful in Affghanistan; that Gordon, at Sonmeanee, is to be ordered to quit his post; if he refuses, he is to be forced, and if he shows any hostile intention, he must be answerable, or, in other words, killed; that this will be the signal for the Sindees of Kurachee to loot and attack the camp, and in that direction insurrection will be general. Shere Mahomed Khan of Meerpore, is ingratiating himself as much as possible with the Sikhs; and his go-between is a man who resides at Hajeepore near Dera Ghazee Khan, by name Ahmed Yar, a Calorah; that these two, Shere Mahomed and Ahmed Yar, keep up a correspondence with Sawun Mull of Mooltan, and disaffected people in those districts. —— asked me, "Do you think that

the English have a friend in Sinde?" I replied, it would appear not from what he said; he added, "Rely upon it you have not, and I do not hesitate in telling you so; *trust no man.*" I put the question about the Ameers (with delicacy) in their intrigues secretly against us. He positively denied that they were. As I have before written to you, and as you mentioned in your letter of the 23rd ultimo, rely upon it, *they are.* —— has promised to give me every intelligence on this subject, and from what I could glean from him, it strikes me he has nothing but a pure motive towards us, and is also disinclined to mix the Ameers up in it, through fear, though doubtless his cautions have meaning which we must not be deaf to. I was surprised at his mentioning Nusseer Khan Brahooee as he did, and told him so. He said "there is a one-eyed chief,* or person of rank who influences him in everything, and who should be narrowly watched, as he is poisoning the lad."

Ahmed Ali, of Billanel, is still here; his people have made known the contents of the letter addressed by the Kelat Chief to the Jam of Beila and Juss, so that Nusseer Khan† knows all about it now. The chiefs, great and small, who have been named to me, are—

Jam of Beila, also Juss.
Ahmed Ali Choottoo.
Douso Soung Bundagee.
Kalack Brahooee.
Jam of Tokias,
Allana Bazunga } under the
Warra Sudder } Tokia Jam.
Shaik Bhahoo.
Sahib Borah (Nawab).

These are the hill people and those adjacent. No cossid has started from Nusseer to the Sikh yet.

The Moonshee tells me, two sons of Nusseer's confidential agent in Persia, by name Meer Hoossein Unquael, are here, two months from Tehran, by name Ali Mahomed and Meerza Jan. The news of our success has made every one *soost* here, and disappointed. It is said when the Affghans approach Shawl and attack our troops, then we may expect a rise.

With reference to the messages delivered by Meer Jan Kan, to Meer Roostum, Mhadajee reports this morning as follows—"Meer Nusseer wished to arrange a visit with the Khyrpore Ameer at Sehwan, or any other place he might pitch upon, in order that they might consult on the course to be taken, should the Affghans overcome the British, or any reverse to their arms in Affghanistan take place. Meer Roostum replied, his coming to meet Meer Nusseer would raise doubts in the minds of people and make all suspicious; that he would send his son Ali Akbar, if Nusseer Khan pleased, with whom he might confer with confidence and secrecy. Meer Nusseer Khan recommended Meer Roostum to take immediate steps with "Suckmut," to get possession of the fort of Bukkur, as in the event of anything, all the fighting must be in Upper Sinde—Lower Sinde being too open, much could not be effected. The Treaty with the British Government provides for assistance in troops of Sinde when called upon to aid the British. This Meer Nusseer had no idea of complying with, as it might entail expense, but if the Beloochees were sent beyond the frontier, they should all run back and leave the British in the lurch, and Meer Nusseer wished Roostum to come to one conclusion on this head."

Some letters from chiefs have arrived from the eastward, I hear, addressed to Jaffir Shah; their purport is not yet known. No cossid has been dispatched to the Sikh; doubtless the letter will go through Lalla Suckoo Mull I have my eye on him.

* Not Gool Mahomed. † Of Hyderabad.

May 9, 1842.

A man named Kumber Khan has arrived from Beila with a message to Nusseer Khan from the Jam, offering his tribe to oppose us at any time. The Ameer replied, they must wait, and inquired the news from Kelat. Kumber Khan replied, that the Brahooees had been ready to rise for the last six months; that young Nusseer Khan was a mere cypher, and could not last long. This man is still with Nusseer Talpoor at his shikargah.

May 17, 1842.

——— came last evening to thank me for some little assistance I gave him, in his miserable situation just now. He has been very ill, and all his servants are either dead or have left him. During the conversation he let out that a certain person (no name, but a friend of his†) had been endeavouring to incite all around him to expel us; that the delay in paying tribute is purposely done, as he expects to get off by our being got rid of. A conversation had taken place, he added, at Ahmed Khan's, of tribute having been paid for two years; that they were tired of it. It was concluded by a person saying and advising that the loss now was nothing to what it would be, where hostile measures taken towards us, meaning it is better to pay three lacs yearly. I did not ask any questions, but left him to proceed at his will. This corroborates what we have before heard, and, doubtless, the man means Nusseer. Preedy writes that the Jam of Beila is most unwilling to act against us, as we have been kind to him, but he has received orders to have his tribe ready, and must act against us or be ruined; also your kindness to Nusseer Khan of Kelat is felt by him. Nao Mull informs Preedy that constant messages are passing between Nusseer and the Khyrpore chiefs, but if letters are written they bear no seal. I wish the Governor-General had not ordered you away; your presence is everything with these fellows. The cholera has damped the spirit of intrigue, and I hear Nusseer is in a dreadful state of alarm, and is praying like a good one.

May 18, 1842.

The Moonshee returned from the Ameers yesterday. Jan Khan has not gone, or have they any intention of sending him to Khyrpore, but I understand on the return of Ameers toHyderabad, either Hubeebashah or his brother will be sent on a secret expedition to Roostum Khan. Nothing is known about Mahomed Ghoree having gone to Ali Moorad, or of their having returned together to Khyrpore.

Your late letters to Nusseer have put him in a state of alarm. He says they are written in a most polite style, but every word is wormwood; and he fancies you suspect him. The intriguing has cooled, and I am trying to get hold of a letter as a proof of Nusseer's guilt. A letter arrived from Larkhana, forwarded by the Naibkar of Seth Mull to Chotram; its contents were not divulged, and no clue has yet been available, but I hope shortly to hear something.

Inclosure 15 in No. 338.

Statement by ——— given to the Political Agent in Sinde on the 27th May, 1842.

ABOUT four months ago Akhoond Hubeeboola came to Khyrpore from Hyderabad, and made some presents of ambergris and other things to Meer Roostum Khan, and then presented a Koran, and asked the Ameer to sign a treaty with Meer Nusseer Khan, to this effect, that if Meer Nusseer Khan should desire to make any disturbance, the Khyrpore Chiefs would join him with all their troops, and that the armies of both parties should be reckoned one; Meer Roostum refused to sign that treaty, but after great persuasion he

† Meaning Meer Nusseer Khan.

agreed to do it by and bye; then a sword was presented to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who accepted it, and gave great promises; then Hubeeboola went to Meer Ali Moorad, and got the Koran sealed by him, and then went to Hyderabad. About a month or more ago, Meer Roostum Khan began to make a great complaint about the villages lost by Meer Nusseer Khan (of Khyrpore) to Ali Moorad, and said he was disgraced by that affair, that his superiority over all the Ameers was not respected, and other things. When Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, heard of this, he immediately sent a confidential messenger to Meer Roostum Khan to say, "See what a *zoolom* the English Sirkar makes over us; when they first entered Sinde, they made and acknowledged you *Raees*, (principal chief,) and then without consulting you, and in opposition to your decision, they took Meer Nusseer Khan's villages, and gave them to Ali Moorad; the Affghans got rid of them through their bravery; we are not inferior to them, let us show them we have spirit and courage;" and much more to the same effect. Meer Roostum Khan sent a message in reply to Nusseer Khan, that he was willing to join them in anything; the man went to Hyderabad, and very soon after that Meer Jan Khan arrived at Khyrpore, and after some complimentary talk, they held *kelwet*, (secret meeting,) where Meer Nusseer Khan and Futteh Mahomed were present; after a long discussion, they proposed that they should all collect their forces; that the Khyrpore Ameers should attack and take the disputed villages from Ali Moorad, or get him to join their coalition; and when the British attempt to interfere, then the Hyderabad force would come on and assist them against the British, and the Khyrpore Chiefs will assist the Hyderabadees to get themselves exempted from tribute. Meer Roostum guaranteed himself to get all the Upper Sinde Ameers to join him. Meer Jan Khan said Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Shahdad had authorized him to enter into these engagements with him on their part, and after doing so, that he was to return to Hyderabad and get Meer Mahomed Sobdar Khan, Shere Mahomed, and Hoossein Ali, to sign the treaty. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, and Meer Roostum, said, that Meer Jan Khan should go first to Hyderabad, get all the other Ameers to sign the treaty to the above effect, and then to come back to Khyrpore, when all the Upper Sinde Ameers would sign it; Meer Jan Khan returned to Hyderabad. When Meer Ali Moorad heard that Meer Roostum had determined to enter into a treaty with the Hyderabad Ameers, he immediately wrote to Meer Roostum to send Futteh Mahomed Ghoree to him, with whom he would be very glad to go to Khyrpore. Futteh Mahomed went to Ali Moorad, and brought him to Khyrpore. Meer Ali Moorad's intention was to make friends with Meer Roostum Khan, even at the expense of giving up the disputed villages, and Meer Roostum was very glad to have him on his part; the death of Meer Fazil Mahomed delayed the writing of this agreement, and Ali Moorad soon found out that the friendship and the treaty with the Hyderabad Ameers was postponed, and found it was not likely that Meer Jan Khan would return for another month; therefore, he threw some obstacles in the way, and prevented the agreement taking place; from Meer Jehan Khan no positive answer has been received yet regarding his leaving Hyderabad for Khyrpore.

Note: ———, although personally inimical to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, has always been protected by those of Khyrpore. He has had occasion to go much to Khyrpore, where he has every facility of ascertaining what is going on, having his own confidential partizans in the suite of the Ameers, besides being himself much in their confidence; moreover, Meer Jan Khan and some others concerned in these consultations, are addicted to intoxicating stimulants, which causes them occasionally to be rather indiscreet in their disclosures. The above information I gleaned from time to time from ———, during his frequent visits to me, and I then called on him for a written statement of everything that had passed according to his knowledge, of which the above is a translation; I consider that ——— is to be relied on, especially as I have had much of what he states confirmed through various channels disconnected with each other; ——— is naturally a well-wisher to the English, whose sojourn in this country is a great source of profit to him and all the mercantile classes, who, being Hindoos, are also much oppressed by all classes of the Mahomedan population, and would gladly hail British rule; this, again, should cause their representations, when

of such a nature as to excite the British against the rulers of the country, to be received with extreme caution, but in this case I think ———'s testimony is to be depended on.

Inclosure 16 in No. 338.

Extracts from the secret Journal of Ali Akbar, the Agency Moonshee.

April 10, 1842.

——— told me that an intrigue had been going on between Meer Roostum and Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and that some letters had been written by Futteh Mahomed, on the subject; that the Khyrpore Ameers' object is, in the first instance, to raise all their troops, on pretence to recover the villages disputed by Meer Nusseer Khan with Meer Ali Moorad; that, of course, the British then would interfere, just as they did before, then the Hyderabad Ameers may get ready their troops by that time, and come over on the plea to assist Meer Roostum and his party; and then Meer Ali Moorad, seeing the coalition of all the Ameers, must join them, or they will induce him to join them, even should he not give any of the villages back. When the plan has succeeded so far, Meer Roostum will pretend to be very angry at the interference of the British, and the Hyderabad Ameers will demand exemption from tribute, and Meer Roostum and all others will assist them to effect their object. ——— added, that the intrigue is still going on, and said, that he would go to Khyrpore to see what will go on further. I told him to try and get the commission of delivering letters on the subject to Hyderabad, and there to inform Mr. Leckie of what they will say; he answered, that he will go to Khyrpore and try to do so; but he does not think that the Ameers may write letters, because their intrigue is going on with great caution; he might get a commission to deliver messages, and he said that he would go next day to Khyrpore, and if he succeeded to get orders to go to Hyderabad, he would tell every thing to Mr. Leckie.

Next morning, ——— started for Khyrpore, and returned back on the 30th, when he repeated all the above; what he had told me twenty days ago, I wanted to write down before him, but he desired me not to do so, and not to mention his name anywhere; when I questioned ——— why he did not go to Hyderabad, he answered, that Meer Jan came to the Ameers from Hyderabad for the purpose of communicating with Meer Roostum Khan, who told him, therefore there was no necessity of his going to Hyderabad.

May 10, 1842.

Learned from ———, just arrived from Hyderabad, that Meer Jan Khan reached that place on return from Khyrpore on the 1st instant, and had a secret interview with Meer Nusseer Khan, at which ——— assisted; afterwards the Ameer ordered him (Meer Jan Khan) to go again to Khyrpore on pretence of settling Jeth Sing's affair, and also to go to Shikarpore on pretence of settling the revenue accounts of Jeyt Mull; also, that five or six days before Jan Khan reached Hyderabad a Persian came to that place, and visited Meer Nusseer Khan, and pretended that he was Mahomed Shah's servant, and he was sent to Meshed by His Majesty to purchase slaves, and eventually, on finding a good opportunity, to visit Meer Nusseer Khan, and pay the Shah's compliments; that man was a Tehranee, and really had come from Meshed. He flattered Meer Nusseer Khan very much, by saying that the Shah had a very high opinion of him, and always remembered him as a good friend. His Highness detained that man for two days, and then gave him his leave, with a present of 500 rupees.

Learned from ——— that Meer Ali Moorad Khan is preparing to go to Khyrpore; his intention apparently is to visit Meer Fazil Mahomed, Meer Nusseer Khan's brother, who is very ill; but it is supposed that his Highness' intention also is to try and put an end to the enmity between himself and Meer Roostum Khan, even at the cost of giving up some portion of the disputed villages.

May 11, 1842.

Futteh Mahomed Ghoree went to Dejee-ka-kote to make overtures of friendship from Meer Roostum and Nusseer Khan to Meer Ali Moorad. Meer Ali Moorad Khan received Futteh Mahomed very kindly, and proposed to start with him from Khyrpore next morning.

May 12, 1842.

Futteh Mahomed Ghoree and Ali Moorad both arrived at Khyrpore, the latter visited both Meer Roostum Khan and Nusseer Khan, apparently with great cordiality.

May 16, 1842.

It is stated that cholera is raging fearfully at Hyderabad, and that all the Ameers had left the city. Meer Jan Khan, who was ordered to come to Khyrpore has been countermanded in consequence, and he will start from there after ten days, and proceed to Khyrpore.

May 17, 1842.

Owing to the death of Meer Fazil Mahomed, Meer Ali Moorad left Khyrpore without settling any dispute. Futteh Mahomed was saying that the quarrel will be settled after twenty days, when all the funeral ceremonies of Meer Fazil Mahomed are over.

May 20, 1842.

Hajee Noor Mahomed of Bhaug, now here, informs me that he has received a letter from Yar Mahomed of Herat, inviting him to go to that place and settle some dispute which had lately arisen between him and Shah Kamran; and further, the Hajee says that 12,000 soldiers, commanded by a Prince, left Herat for Candahar. Kohendil Khan and Ruhimdil Khan, the ex-Chiefs of Candahar, are accompanying them, and they have reached Furrah; and when they will reach the neighbourhood of Candahar, they expect to be joined by numbers of Affghans, under different chiefs.

From ——— I have ascertained regarding Meer Jan Khan's late visit to Meer Roostum Khan, that Meer Jan Khan said that Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Shahdad Khan are willing to join and assist Meer Roostum Khan; and that they had also written to different chiefs, particularly to the Khan of Kelat, whose answer has not yet been received; they said that it would be as well to get Meers Mahomed Khan, Shere Mahomed, Hoossein Ali, and Sobdar, to join them; but these Ameers have refused at first to agree; but Meer Jan declared that he would go to Hyderabad, and when those Ameers joined the coalition, that then he would come back to Khyrpore; Meer Roostum Khan said that all the chiefs and Ameers of Upper Sinde are under him, who would join him at his first call, and that although Meer Ali Moorad declares himself his enemy, yet he is almost confident he would come over to him at the first signal. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree did not think it advisable to inform all the other small chiefs at present, but said Meer Roostum may wait till Meer Jan Khan's return, or any other confidential messenger from Hyderabad, when all others could be sent for and consulted on the subject; that their meetings (if not at Khyrpore) might be at Sehwan, where the Hyderabad Ameers, either themselves or their confidential messengers, can more easily come down.

No. 339.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, June* 4, 1842.

THE Governor-General has learnt with regret, but without surprise, your opinion, as expressed in your letter of the 24th ultimo, of the infidelity of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

2. His Lordship approves entirely of your not having presented, under the circumstances, and for the reasons stated by you, any one of the letters without address, which were transmitted to you in my letter of the 6th ultimo, to be used or not at your discretion.

3. The circumstances mentioned by you will probably lead to the detention at Sukkur and Bukkur of a somewhat larger portion of the army under Major-General Nott, than under other circumstances it would be necessary to retain there, as the Governor-General is resolved to keep everything within the Lower Indus in his hands, and, by punishing infidelity, to secure good conduct on the part of our allies.

4. The Governor-General wishes to be informed, whether the territories under Meer Roostum Khan be in such a position as to make it easy to annex a portion thereof to the dominions of the Khan of Bhawulpore, whose dominions his Lordship is desirous of increasing, in reward for his own uniform fidelity, and that of his ancestors.

5. You will on all suitable occasions, whenever you may be led to communicate with the Khan of Bhawulpore, assure him of the Governor-General's personal respect and good-will towards him, which his Lordship hastened to express to the Khan on his first arrival in India, in a letter of which the delivering must have been much delayed by its having been mis-sent to Bhopaul.

I have, &c.
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 340.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Allahabad, June* 8, (*No.* 15.) 1842.

I AM sorry to notice that Major Outram has detected intrigues on the part of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, which evince clearly that these chieftains entertained projects of a hostile nature, if any further disasters to our arms in Affghanistan, had afforded them a favourable opportunity of attempting to throw off their allegiance to the British Government.

I had provided Major Outram with letters of warning, addressed to these chiefs, declaring my intention of visiting with the severest displeasure of my Government, any breach of faith on their part, and that officer was authorized to exercise his own judgment in the delivery of any or all of these letters.

Major Outram has stated reasons why he considered it inexpedient, at the present moment, to deliver these letters, and I have approved of his conduct in withholding them.

No. 341.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, June* 11, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 28th May, relative to the sums due from the Ameers of Sinde, and in reply, to

inform you, that the Governor-General directs interest to be charged to Meer Nusseer Khan on the sums due by him, according to the rate of interest current in the town of Skikarpore.

I have, &c.
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 342.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Quetta, June* 20, 1842.

ALTHOUGH your dispatch of the 22nd ultimo does not specifically call for any observation in reply, there are certain local circumstances connected with the proposed arrangements in Sinde, which it may be proper to lay before the Governor-General, for his Lordship's consideration, prior to furnishing me with final instructions for my guidance in negotiating the arrangements.

2. Government having already decided that tolls on the River Indus, throughout Sinde, are entirely abolished, it may not be considered that any portion of the tribute payable by the Ameers should be relinquished on that account, and now to moot the point might be considered an admission of injustice in that decision, and cause the Ameers to recommence their cavils on that Article of the Treaty which has been the subject of discussion, and was only smothered, but not cheerfully acquiesced in, by the decision of the late Government, conveyed in Mr. Torrens' dispatch, dated 22nd of June, 1840. Meer Roostum Khan having written to me, the very day before my departure, to claim the right to exact tolls from his own subjects, I replied, by requesting him to show on what grounds he now advanced such a claim: to this I have yet had no answer.

3. It will be seen from Mr. Leckie's diaries, also, that the Ameers of Hyderabad had recommenced levying tolls on one occasion, and were brooding over the subject, so that it is evident the Chiefs of Sinde would take every opportunity of making such exactions, when they considered themselves strong enough to enforce them; and the forced prevention by the British Government is most galling to them; moreover, the advantages from opening the river, which they were told would follow, they have not yet derived, owing to the utter stagnation of trade consequent on the disturbed state of Affghanistan.

4. I myself consider that an open and *bonâ fide* relinquishment of all tolls on the river, for value received in the shape of remission in tribute, which would set the question at rest for ever, is highly advisable; but, that this might be best effected as a spontaneous gift of the British Government, in consequence of the expected advantages not having been realized by the Ameers, owing to circumstances over which they had no control, but caused by our own wars beyond their frontier. On tendering this gift, they might, without questioning the previous right assumed by the British Government, on the strength of the disputed Articles of the Treaty, be induced to execute a separate deed, relinquishing for ever the right of levying tolls on their own subjects.

5. What amount of compensation would be fair, I am not able to say, but whatever portion of the tribute the Governor-General may please so to bestow on them, will be greedily accepted, and the deed readily subscribed by the Ameers who now pay tribute: but there are others, Meer Sobdar Khan of Hyderabad, and Meers Roostum Khan and Ali Moorad of Khyrpore, who pay no tribute; consequently, a money payment to them would be required, equal to the amount of tribute remitted to others, unless in the meantime, they have become amenable to punishment by conviction of intrigues against our power, which would authorize the dictation of our own terms; but, although Meer Roostum probably will be convicted, together with Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, and Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, of treasonable practices, I do not think Meers Ali Moorad and Sobdar Khan will be so.

6. The only other channels whereby the Ameers have it in their power to levy duties burthensome to trade, are through Kurachee and Tatta, from the sea to the Indus, and on the high road from Rojhan on its western frontier to the Indus, through Shikarpore and Sukkur: by the previously proposed farming of Shikarpore, the latter would be taken from them; and by obtaining a cession of Kurachee, the former would be combined with some arrangement for a free passage through Tatta, which could be effected by fair pecuniary compensation to Meer Hoossein Ali, the Ameer who owns that city.

7. With respect to the first arrangement, the principal difficulty is, the objections now raised by the Hyderabad Ameers to the transfer of Shikarpore, and that, were their share transferred, three-sevenths still would belong to the Ameers of Khyrpore. I doubt not, however, that Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, the principal party concerned, would be too glad to fulfil his previous engagement, when he sees our armies returning in full strength from Affghanistan; and conscious as he is that he has rendered himself amenable to punishment by his late treacherous proceedings; and, in that case, the others would follow his example, especially if Meers Roostum Khan and Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore are also implicated. The obstacles to the second, are the extreme jealousy with which all the Ameers of Hyderabad will view our desire to obtain the cession of Kurachee, which I question whether they ever could be brought willingly to consent to, unless under the circumstances just noticed; one of the Ameers, Meer Sobdar Khan, who owns a fourth share of Kurachee, and pays no tribute, would require pecuniary compensation equal in value to the remission in tribute to the others.

8. Were Kurachee ceded, and the Ameers' right to levy tolls at Tatta relinquished, commerce would be entirely free from the Sea to the Indus, and by that river, throughout Sinde, unimpeded by any land taxes the Ameers might choose to levy within their own territory elsewhere than on the great road to Affghanistan, between Sukkur and the Desert; but I doubt whether it would be of any advantage to obtain their relinquishment of the right to levy tolls on that portion of the road, unless we were in possession of the whole of the Shikarpore district, because, without that inducement to keep the road clear, the Sinde Government would take no steps to protect merchandize passing through the district, and their own officers would probably be concerned in plundering it; but the cost of maintaining the road ourselves, unless we had the management of the whole district, would be greater than it would be worth, for the whole country beyond the limits of our territory at Sukkur would be filled with banditti, under the misrule of the Sinde Government, and the Northern Hill tribes, no longer checked by the Sinde and Belooch Horse, who now protect the plains. Time alone can correct this evil; and in the meantime, the commerce of Central Asia will find its way by other routes, Dera Ghazee Khan, Dera Ismael Khan, &c., to the Indus, and by Kelat and Sonmeanee to the sea; and ultimately, that by Shikarpore and the Bolan Pass would revert to its former state of protection under the various chiefs levying tolls, which only could now be preserved free by our assumption of the Skikarpore territory, and thence, by our power in his immediate neighbourhood, enabling the Khan of Kelat to preserve Kutchee from the aggressions of the Hill tribes.

9. Observing that it is intended to confine our territorial and military occupation to Sukkur and Kurachee alone, I have alluded to Shikarpore solely as respects the transport of commerce by that route, without reference to other advantages to be derived from the possession of that territory, which are not to be weighed, perhaps, against the more immediate and positive advantage of the possession of Kurachee and Sukkur, and undisputed freedom of the river, and which certainly would be cheaply purchased at the cost of the three and a half lacs of annual tribute derived from the Ameers of Lower Sinde, and the portion of the seven lacs due to Shah Shooja, and annual tribute of one lac due by the late Meer Moobaruck's family in Upper Sinde: at this price I should hope there will be little difficulty in effecting the arrangement, or, on the other hand, acquiring Shikarpore and its dependencies, together with Sukkur, but leaving Kurachee and our river relations as at present; more, however, than either the one arrangement, or the other, could not, I believe, be accomplished at the price. I am calculating, moreover, on our having acquired the right to dictate to some of the principal Ameers to facilitate the arrangement.

10. In the above estimate I am trusting to satisfying Meer Sobdar and others who would have to receive compensation, instead of remission of tribute, by the transfer of property to be received from the other Ameers, in lieu of such portion of their tribute as would remain after a fair remission for their shares of Kurachee, &c.

11. I cannot doubt that his Lordship's expectations, expressed in the 3rd paragraph of your dispatch now under reply, of the transfer of the entire trade of Shikarpore to Sukkur, will immediately follow the proposed measure, provided protection is given to all subjects of the neighbouring States who seek an asylum at Sukkur, and the site of the old city is admirably adapted for a great commercial mart, while it and the cantonment can be rendered invulnerable to attack, should such be apprehended, at very trifling cost, by the construction of field-works across the neck of the isthmus on which they were situated; a sketch of which I have requested Lieutenant Brown to forward with this letter. That officer will hereafter furnish the report on Bukkur Fort, called for in your dispatch.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 343.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Quetta, June* 21, 1842.

IN continuation of my dispatch of yesterday's date, I beg leave to submit, for the consideration of the Governor-General, the grounds which I would suggest for renewing negotiations with the chiefs of Sinde, and the terms I would propose to remedy the errors of our present position in that country, and to ensure security and advantage for the future.

2. I respectfully premise, that I think it would be necessary to show, as a ground for requiring new arrangements, that we have of late been exposed to the inimical intrigues of some of the Ameers; that, therefore, we are called upon to demand such arrangements as will ensure security for the future to our power and to commerce, which, as at present situated, is liable to be interrupted.

3. The evidence which I have already submitted to Government, even if deficient of legal proof, gives, I consider, sufficient data for suspecting that intrigues were in progress to overthrow our power, and to authorize, consequently, our now taking the precautions necessary for self-preservation; and it cannot be denied that, as at present situated in Sinde, our military positions are insecure, and our communications liable to be cut off.

4. These considerations would, I should suppose, justify the dictation of our terms to the Ameers, although generously, at the time relinquishing for ever as an equivalent for what we justly assumed the right to demand, all pecuniary claims we possess on them, and even making up to such chiefs as we have no claims against, what we estimate they may sacrifice pecuniarily by the arrangement.

5. If I am allowed to communicate with the Ameers on the above grounds, I anticipate little difficulty in satisfactorily concluding the arrangements desired by his Lordship, before the army, returning from Affghanistan, passes through Sinde; otherwise it may be impracticable to induce the Ameers to concede what is required on the mere ground of mutual advantage, for scarcely any return would induce them to waive their prejudices against making over Kurachee, and allowing any infringement on their shikargahs.

6. With respect to the Article in the proposed Treaty, which relates to the shikargahs (hunting preserves), I have to explain that the Ameers are so extremely tenacious of them that nothing that could be required of their Highnesses would be more grating to their feelings than the encroachment thereon, which the stipulation in the 5th Article of the proposed Treaty involves; but, in order to keep up steam communication, the supply of fuel which it secures, is absolutely indispensable; for, as at present, (only allowed to cut wood at a distance from those forests, which occupy a very extensive portion of the river banks,) only an insufficient, and very precarious, supply can be procured; and the old jungles within

reach of the river having already been nearly exhausted, nothing but young wood of inferior quality could be obtained hereafter; and, ultimately, the supply would fail altogether. By cutting the small extent specified, of the forest jungle skirting the river, an inexhaustible supply of large timber is secured, which, otherwise, is carried away by the river, which varies its course from side to side, here and there, to a greater than that extent every three or four years, consuming the wood to no other purpose than the obstruction of navigation by filling its course with trees, on which many of the frail craft of the country are annually swamped; moreover, navigation is greatly retarded by those jungles extending, as at present, to the water's edge, which renders tracking up the river doubly tedious and difficult; thus supplying our steamers would be of the greatest benefit to the river craft by clearing the banks.

7. It may be objected that there would be a difficulty in confining the wood-cutters to the exact limit laid down by treaty; but there would be none. The wood contractor would be bound under penalties not to fell trees beyond that distance; and the Ameers would be given to understand that the officers of the steamers would be bound to take cognizance of, and report, every instance brought to their notice by the people of the country, of the law being infringed. In this respect nothing could be worse than the present system, which causes constant broils and representations to the Ameers, as irksome to them as to ourselves, owing to their Highnesses objecting to wood being cut in the neighbourhood of the shikargahs, without any particular limit being defined.

8. This Article will be more unpalatable to the Ameers personally than any of the others, but not to their subjects, whose river traffic would be so greatly facilitated, besides being rendered safer; and I would submit that their Highnesses' selfish feelings on this subject ought not to obstruct a measure of such general public benefit, and vitally necessary for the continuance of steam navigation on the Indus, which measure this may be the only opportunity for effecting that may occur for years to come.

9. The cession of the small islets near Bukkur, the one within fifty yards of the fort, and the other about the same distance from the treasury and public offices of the Agency, is considered necessary to hold them under the surveillance of our police, in order to prevent the assemblage of thieves or armed bodies to whom they would afford refuge in such close vicinity; both islets being covered with trees, neither is of any pecuniary value to the Ameers.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

P.S. Since writing the above I have received a demi-official letter from Lieutenant Mylne, Assistant in charge of Hyderabad, dated 10th instant, from which I make the following extract, exemplifying the insecure tenure of our fuel sources on the present footing: "Mr. Macdonald of the wood-stations reported to me yesterday that Meer Sobdar had stopped the cutting of fuel at the stations of Alenee-ka-gote and Bela-ka-gote; that Meer Shadad had done so at Gopauz, and Meer Mahomed Khan at Jurruk. I have sent to beg that the embargo may be taken off, but as yet have not received the perwannahs. I understand from Mr. Macdonald, that he has two months' supply ready, but of course any unexpected run upon that would be most inconvenient. The fuel has now to be brought from a considerable distance from the banks, so much so, that Mr. Macdonald is now obliged to agree to pay one rupee for twenty, instead of twenty-five, maunds, as formerly."

No. 344.

Sketch of a proposed Supplementary Treaty with the Ameers of Sinde, submitted for the consideration of the Governor-General, by the Political Agent in Sinde.

Quetta, June 21, 1842.

WHEREAS it has become known to the Governor-General of India, that certain of the princes of Sinde had entered into treasonable correspondence with the enemies of the British Government, with a view to the expulsion of

the British troops from Sinde, and closing the River Indus: the following additional stipulations to the treaties formerly contracted between the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde, are found necessary to secure the British power and commerce on the Indus, on the one hand, and the Government of Sinde, on the other, from being endangered in future by the factious intrigues of any individual Ameer, which, if proceeded in, would sacrifice the whole.

ARTICLE I.

Afford no revenue, I believe, to the Ameers.

The fortress of Bukkur and neighbouring small islets, are ceded to the British Government in perpetuity.

ARTICLE II.

The revenue derived by Meer Moobaruck's family, from Sukkur, estimated at 6,500 rupees annually, now almost entirely deserted.

The site of the ancient Sukkur, and ground occupied by the neighbouring cantonment, comprising the space within the bend of the river, from, to [specifying the limits] is ceded to the British Government in perpetuity.

ARTICLE III.

I have not Lieutenant Wallace and Hart's reports on Kurachee with me, but have requested Lieutenant Brown to obtain them from Hyderabad, and hereafter to communicate to you the estimated amount of the Kurachee revenues, including sea customs.

The town and harbour of Kurachee, together with the ground occupied by the town and cantonment [specifying the limits], are ceded to the British Government in perpetuity.

ARTICLE IV.

Lieutenant Brown will ascertain and inform you of the estimated value of the Tatta customs.

All articles of commerce are to have free passage between the Sea at Kurachee and the Indus at Tatta, free communication by the mouths of the river during the season, when practicable, being already provided for.

ARTICLE V.

This involves little or no loss of revenue to the Ameers.

The British Government is allowed to cut, and consume for steam navigation, wood growing within 100 haths (cubits) of the river bank and to clear the bank of jungle for that space, due precautions being adopted to prevent trespass beyond that limit.

ARTICLE VI.

Assumed to have been previously relinquished.

No tolls to be levied on any boats whatever, in transit, on the River Indus.

ARTICLE VII.

In consideration of the above cessions, and that the Sinde Government has yet derived none of the benefits held out to it by throwing open the river, the British Government releases the Ameers from all pecuniary obligations whatever, *i.e.*, from the payment of tribute by the Ameers of Hyderabad of three lacs of rupees annually; from ditto, by the Ameers of Meerpore, of half a lac of rupees annually; from ditto, of one lac of rupees annually, and arrears of three years past, due by the family of the late Meer Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore, also of the instalment of seven lacs of rupees, due by Meer Moobaruck Khan's family, on behalf of Shah Shooja. The British Government further pledges itself, never, hereafter, to make any further claims on the Sinde Government, either pecuniary, or for cession of territory.

Having no forms of treaties with me just now, technical forms are not observed in the wording of the above draft, which is merely submitted as the substance of what I would recommend.

J. OUTRAM.

No. 345.

Lieutenant Brown, Assistant Political Agent, to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, June* 25, 1842.

I HAVE the honor, by direction, to forward, for submission to the Governor-General of India, copies of three similar letters to the address of Major Outram, received from their Highnesses Meer Shahdad Khan, Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed Khan, of Hyderabad, on receipt of the circular letter forwarded by you of the 26th April last.

I have, &c.,

E. J. BROWN.

No. 346.

Meers Meer Mahomed Khan, Meer Shahdad Khan, and Meer Nusseer Khan, to the Political Agent in Sinde.—(Without date, received June 10, 1842.)

YOUR letter, with translation of a letter from the Governor-General, I have received, and I understand its contents.

The customs of Hindoostan are different from the customs of Beloochistan, every country has its own rules and customs; but the friendship that took place between the Ameers and the British Government will increase daily, and the Treaty, dated 11th of March, 1839, which is written for the good of both Governments, will be ever binding, and to the different paragraphs therein we agree. The justice of the British Government is well known to all the world, and the word of the British is always true and correct. The same Treaty which is confirmed by the seal and signature of the British Government is enough for us.

The contents of the 5th paragraph of the same Treaty is, that the Ameers, who are mentioned in that, are to remain rulers of their country, and that the English Government will not interfere with their Goverment: "The complaints of the ryots against the Ameers will not be listened to by the British Government." It is hoped that the contents of this paragraph will be acted up to by the British Government.

No. 347.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Quetta, June* 26, 1842.

IN acknowledging your dispatch dated 4th instant, I am unable, in the absence of my office records, to afford the information called for, in the 4th paragraph, as to the contiguity of any portion of Meer Roostum Khan's territory to that of the Khan of Bhawulpore, but I have requested Lieutenant Brown to transmit it.

2. From the repeated disputes, however, between the Kardar of Subzulkote and the neighbouring authorities of Bhawulpore, regarding infringement of their respective boundaries, I conclude that the district of Subzulkote must be conveniently situated for the contemplated transfer; and I believe it was formerly wrested from Bhawulpore by the Sinde Government, and that only since the British Government guaranteed to the latter the territory which we found the Ameers in possession of, has Bhawul Khan relinquished his claim to it; however, of this I am not certain, having had little personal experience in Upper Sinde, but have directed Lieutenant Brown to communicate the result of his inquiries on the subject.

3. However that may be, Subzulkote is a very rich district, even under its present misgoverment, and I know that its possession by Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, is the source of considerable jealousy to the other Ameers, and I doubt not it would be a very acceptable acquisition to Bhawul Khan, and would be better managed by him than by Meer Nusseer Khan, who looks to nothing but gratifying his avarice by extorting the utmost farthing from the people, who, at such a distance from the seat of Government, have no access to the ruler; the transfer, consequently, I have every reason to believe, would be as gratifying to them as to the Khan; and the district, under his authority, would afford supplies to Sukkur, should the Ameers ever attempt to obstruct what we derive from Sinde.

4. As it happens that Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad will, I believe, prove deserving of greater punishment than any of the other Ameers, and as, on relinquishing our views on Shikarpore, there is no possession of his which we could avail ourselves of, beyond his share of Kurachee, in which he has only the same stake as the other Ameers of Hyderabad, I consider making over Subzulkote to the Khan of Bhawulpore a most desirable arrangement, in every respect, as depriving Nusseer Khan of one of his richest districts, his right to rule over which he does not support by just government; as depriving him of a position bordering on the Punjab, from whence his agents have every facility for carrying on their intrigues with the Sikhs; as placing him more on a par with the other Ameers, consequently not displeasing to them; and as punishing an unfaithful, to the benefit of a faithful, ally, without the objectionable appearance of any desire for territorial acquisition on our own part; the arrangements regarding Sukkur and Kurachee bearing the aspect merely of securing ourselves on the ground we already occupy, for, beyond the sites of the cantonments, and ground on which these towns are situated, no cession of actual territory is involved thereby.

5. Should it be necessary to recompense Meer Sobdar Khan for his share of Kurachee, probably one of Meer Nusseer Khan's shikargahs would content him; and I consider that thus depriving the latter of what he so much values, *i.e.*, his superiority over the other Ameers of Lower

Sinde, in extent of territory and hunting grounds, and, at the same time, a considerable source of wealth, would be a sufficient punishment for his infidelity on this occasion, as depriving him, for the future, of much of his means of mischief, and of the hope, which he has heretofore indulged, of acquiring supreme power in Lower Sinde.

6. If, however, his Lordship should determine on making a more signal example of this chief, by depriving him of his possessions altogether, the other Ameers of Lower Sinde would the more readily relinquish their shares of Kurachee, the land customs of Tatta, the claim to levy tolls from their own subjects on the river, and agree to our clearing the banks thereof, (the measures which, in my reply to your dispatch dated 22nd ultimo, I represented as most necessary to secure, on any renewal of negotiations with the Sinde Government,) for shares in the forfeited territory, after assigning Subzulkote to Bhawulpore, and a sufficient provision for the support in respectability of Meer Nusseer Khan and his family, more especially if tribute is also remitted by the British Government.

7. The only other Lower Sinde Ameer to be considered is Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, who, having obtained our guarantee to his present possessions, at the cost of half a lac of annual tribute, would consider himself most liberally treated by that pecuniary obligation being relinquished for his adhesion to the river arrangement, a very small portion of the banks of which he possesses; in addition to which it may be advantageous to obtain free access to Shah Bunder, a small port in his territory, into which boats are sometimes driven by stress of weather, when they are subject to capricious exactions, causing frequent embarrassing discussion.

8. With respect to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, I beg to observe that, being relieved from the necessity for mulcting any portion of his territory by the assignment of Subzulkote to Bhawulpore instead, that chief's hitherto uniform friendliness to the British Government may fairly entitle him to more lenient treatment for his recent infidelity than is due either to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, whose intrigues against the British Government have been unremitting from first to last, or his namesake of Khyrpore, whose late father's hostility deprived his family of the claim to pecuniary remission and exemption from tribute, granted to Meers Roostum Khan and Ali Moorad, and whose own concern in the late intrigues entitles him to no consideration.

9. I would recommend, therefore, that our demands on Meer Roostum Khan be confined to the cession of Bukkur and the two small islets above and below that fort, (which is no pecuniary deprivation, and has already been tacitly made over to us,) relinquishing the right to levy tolls from his own subjects on the river, admission of the claim of his brother, Meer Ali Moorad, to the turban after his death, and expulsion from Sinde of his Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree and his family, who has no natural tie to the country, and is the real author of the intrigues, to which he persuaded the old chief to lend the weight of his authority, and whose former underhand hostility to the British Government was repeatedly reported by my predecessor.

10. Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore is the sole possessor of Sukkur, and the ground occupied by the cantonment in its neighbourhood, which produces so trifling a revenue, that deprivation of this would be a trifling punishment for his concern in the late intrigues; moreover, as he has no treaty with the British Government, (none having been granted to his father,) our guarantee for the remainder of his territory should, I consider, only be given on his subscribing to similar terms to those exacted from Meer Roostum Khan,—it still resting with his Lordship to enforce or relinquish the pecuniary claims against him.

11. On Meer Ali Moorad we have no claims, neither have we to accuse him of inimical proceedings. His fidelity would be sufficiently rewarded by the guarantee by the British Government of his succession to the turban of chieftainship of Upper Sinde, on the demise of Meer Roostum Khan; in gratitude for which he would willingly subscribe to the river compact.

12. I take this opportunity of recommending to his Lordship's con-

sideration the policy of similarly vesting one of the Ameers of Hyderabad with the turban for Lower Sinde; which, in fact, is but rendering him the executive administrator of the general government of the country. While each Ameer remains independent within his own portion of it, as at present constituted, with six Ameers all claiming equality, there is no general government in Lower Sinde, and the British Representative having to transact business with each, causes infinite trouble to all parties, and each Ameer evades doing anything by throwing the onus on his neighbour. Moreover, there being no common head, as heretofore, when one of the chiefs had the turban, the British Government is appealed to in every case of dispute among them, which ought to be settled among themselves, causing the direct interference in their affairs so obnoxious to themselves, but which nothing but a constituted head, under British guarantee of his power, can obviate.

13. Although giving no real advantage, and imposing considerable responsibility, the distinction of the turban would be highly prized; and, in consideration of the uniform friendly conduct of Meers Meer Mahomed Khan and Sobdar Khan, since our entry into Sinde, contrasted with the hostile spirit of Meer Nusseer Khan, and his late brother, Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, the choice, I presume, would rest between them. I think both parties would be satisfied by the following arrangement, *i. e.*, in consideration of the superior age of Meer Mahomed Khan, Meer Sobdar Khan would waive his claim, on condition of succeeding at Meer Mahomed's death, or his son doing so should Meer Mahomed outlive him. The present investiture of Meer Mahomed Khan by the British Government would come with a good grace as a reward for the cheerful aid he has always given the British Representative as peace-maker, on every occasion of feud among the Ameers; for the good faith with which he has kept his engagements by punctual payment of tribute, &c.; and in consideration of his seniority in point of age, where no claim of right can be advanced by either party, the turban of the last possessor, Meer Noor Mahomed, having been removed for his hostility to the British Government, when all were declared equal. At the same time, as Meer Mahomed Khan has no heirs, it would appear equally correct to guarantee the succession, after his death, to Meer Sobdar Khan or son, in acknowledgment of his good faith, both previous to and since the late Treaty.

14. I have been led to enter at such length on the relative claims of the Ameers in this and previous late dispatches, connected with the same subject, in my anxiety to lay before his Lordship every information it is in my power to give, where such a variety of interests are concerned in the contemplated arrangements.

15. With reference to your 5th paragraph, I beg to remind you that I am not the medium of intercourse with the Khan of Bhawulpore, who is under Mr. Clerk's agency. This I did myself the honor to bring to your notice in my reply to your dispatch dated 30th of March last, on the 11th ultimo.

16. Although Bhawulpore is not under my agency, I may be permitted to suggest, that the occasion of granting the Khan an accession of territory, might be a favourable opportunity for obtaining from him the removal of all the remaining restrictions to trade on the river throughout his dominions, which still exist; and that such concession, on his part, might form a reasonable plea for requiring similar relinquishment of all vexatious imposts by the Sikhs on the opposite side of the same extent of river.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

No. 348.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Allahabad, July* 8, (*No.* 22.) 1842.

THE Ameers of Sinde have also made preparations for liquidating the arrears of their tribute, and appear to have desisted from the hostile intrigues in which there is reason to believe they were till lately engaged.

No. 349.

Lieutenant Brown to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, July* 9, 1842.

HAVING reference to Major Outram's letter to your address, of the 26th ultimo, I have now the honor, by his direction, to forward, for submission to the Governor-General of India, the following information relative to the present possessions of the Ameers of Sinde, on the border of the country of the Khan of Bhawulpore.

It appears that, thirty-three years ago, Meer Roostum Khan wrested from the Khan of Bhawulpore the pergunnah of Bhoong Bhara, the annual revenue of which, comprising twenty-five villages, amounts to 60,000 rupees. This still remains in the possession of Meer Roostum Khan. This pergunnah is contiguous to the river, and about eight coss on the Sinde side of the present boundary between Sinde and Bhawulpore.

The year following, the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde combined, made themselves masters of the pergunnah of Subzulkote, now the boundary on the Sinde side. It is about twenty coss in length, running from the river to the Desert, and about eight coss in breadth. The revenue of this pergunnah, consisting of thirty villages, amounts to one lac of rupees annually. This was divided into three shares, two going to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and the third, which was assigned to Meer Roostum of Khyrpore, has been by him made over to his son, Meer Ali Murdan Khan.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

No. 350.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, July* 10, 1842.

I AM directed by the Governor-General to inform you, with reference to your letter of the 21st ultimo, and the inclosed sketch of a treaty with the Ameers, that his Lordship does not see any necessity for pressing a negotiation upon them precipitately, and, on the contrary, would rather desire to leave their minds, for the present, in tranquillity.

2. His Lordship does not consider that there would be any necessity for taking a general power to cut wood within a certain distance of the Indus. Such an arrangement can hardly be necessary for the supply of our steamers, and would be naturally very offensive to the Ameers. It may be expedient to have a power to cut wood in certain places; but, when it is considered that all these concessions on the part of the Ameers are to be purchased with money on our part, it becomes expedient to calculate the comparative cost of wood and coal, and to consider whether we may not really be engaging to pay much more than the value of the privilege we ask.

3. As while we remit to some Ameers, we should have to pay to others, from whom we derive no tribute, and who yet would be required

to make concessions, it would be for consideration, whether such payment should not be made by a transfer to them of some portion of the tribute due to the British Government by others.

4. The Governor-General would not deem it expedient to make any reference, in the preamble to the treaty, to the treachery attributed to the Ameers, although, in negotiating any treaty, his Lordship might avail himself of such proofs as might exist of that treachery; neither would his Lordship deem it expedient to go beyond the actual necessity of the case, and to make any promises or stipulations, as to the future, which could be avoided.

5. After all, it will be a matter for consideration, before the final instructions shall be issued to you, whether any probable benefit to be ever derived from the Treaty could compensate for the annual expenditure which would be brought upon the Government of India by the maintenance of a large force at Sukkur and Kurachee.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 351.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Quetta, July* 10, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General, a copy of a letter I have this day addressed to Major-General Nott, with inclosure reporting the capture of Syud Mahomed Shureef, whose machinations for raising rebellion in this quarter have thus been thwarted, I trust, when on the eve of explosion; and I hope the expression of my obligations to the officers concerned, and especially to Lieutenant Hammersley, for his exertions on the occasion, which I have ventured to offer in my report to the Major-General, may be approved by his Lordship.

Considering it a matter of extreme moment to check the Syud's proceedings, ere yet his dupes were committed by any hostile act, I requested Lieutenant Hammersley to spare no cost or exertion in the endeavour to effect his capture, and authorized him to offer a reward of 1000 rupees to any person who would enable our troops to come upon him; and, as Mr. Hammersley considers that Nek Mahomed, a Havildar in the Bolan Rangers, through whose means that object has been accomplished, has fairly earned the prize, in which I concur, I have sanctioned the disbursement accordingly, which I trust may be passed.

No. 352.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Quetta, July* 10, 1842.

MY letters of the 8th instant will have caused you to apprehend disturbance in this quarter, but I have now the satisfaction to express, for his Lordship's information, my hope that the danger has been warded, at least, of any important outbreak, by the precautions I then reported, and the capture yesterday of the chief mover of the mischief, Mahomed Shureef. Most fortunate I consider that event, for, although by other means I might have kept the Brahooees quiet, and this valley free, still the Affghans and Kakurs might have mustered in numbers to cut off our communications, and their example might have caused the flame of insurrection to extend towards Candahar anew. I now hope that those with whom Mahomed Sadig has effected an understanding may lose heart and desert his cause.

No. 353.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Quetta, July* 14, 1842.

I THINK we shall keep the Brahooees true to us; and Mahomed Shureef's capture appears to have quashed the scheme he and Mahomed Sadig had concocted. I hear to-day that the latter, on learning the Syud's arrest, gave up the game, and went off with about fifty horsemen towards Candahar.

No. 354.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *July* 16, 1842.

THE effect of Mahomed Shureef's capture has been complete; the tribes of Sharawuk, on learning the circumstance, broke off their alliance with Mahomed Sadig, and insisted on his departure from among them, lest a chuppao should be sent after him; he is said to have given up the game and gone off towards Candahar.

No. 355.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, July* 18, 1842.

YOUR letter of the 26th June has been received; but before passing any order, on your proposition for annexing Subzulkote to the Bhawulpore State, the Governor-General would wish to be informed of the real value of Subzulkote.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 356.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Allahabad, August* 17, 1842.

THE correspondence with Major Outram respecting the expediency of entering into certain engagements with the Ameers of Sinde, will show you that I had no intention, in my former instructions to that officer, to press on the Ameers of Sinde any hasty change in our present relations with them, as any such measures that may appear expedient, had better remain for future consideration.

No. 357.

Perwanna from Meer Nusseer Khan to his Kardar, Jeyt Mull, Kazim of the Pergunnas of Shikarpore.

August 19, 1842

AT this time it appears that the merchants of Bhawulpore and Mithun Kote dispatch boats laden with wheat and other grain, for the purpose of being sold in Sinde. You are well aware that the revenues of Sinde depend chiefly upon the grain crops, and if it is allowed to be imported from all quarters, there will be no fixed price, and prices will

be uncommonly low, and from the cheapness of grain there will be a deficit in the revenue. I therefore write to inform you, that if any boats laden with grain or other merchandize (excepting rice, called Sookdasee, the produce of Cutch) should arrive or have arrived, you are not to permit them to pass, nor to permit them to sell on the spot or in the environs. On these points you will give particular orders to your deputy stationed at Subzulkote.

No. 358.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Quetta, August* 25, 1842.

MY various communications from this place will have informed his Lordship of the strenuous exertions which our enemies, both in Affghanistan and Sinde, had made of late to embroil the Khan and his Brahooees with the British, and with what success I have happily frustrated those endeavours, which is chiefly to be attributed to the following measures:— First, to the arrest of Mahomed Shureef from the midst of the Kakur clans whom he had enrolled to bring against us, which event at once quashed an extensive rebellion, (which the Syud had been deputed by the Khyrpore Minister to organize,) headed by certain disaffected Brahooee Chiefs, between whom and the Affghan leader, Mahomed Sadig, an understanding had been effected, by which the Brahooee forces, then assembling to go against the Warreech tribes, (which had called in Mahomed Sadig to head them,) were to unite against us instead of opposing each other, and to aid Mahomed Shureef at the head of the Kakur tribes in an attack on Quetta, in ravaging the Shawl valley, and in cutting off our communications with Candahar.

The defection of the Brahooees would have been attended with more serious evil than merely the physical opposition they and the Kakurs, &c., united might have organized against us in the Bolan Pass, for we should thus have been deprived of the means of transporting the baggage and stores of the army, for which we are entirely dependent on the resources of Beloochistan; happily the danger has been averted, and through the adherence of the Brahooees we have secured camels on hire to the full extent of our wants, at an average of one quarter cheaper than the rates which were obtained by the Commissariat Department here last year for not one-fourth of the troops which have now to be provided.

No. 359.

Lieutenant Brown to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, August* 26, 1842.

I FORWARD a translation of a perwanna, addressed by Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, to his Kardar at Kurachee, prohibiting his subjects from selling in, and the introduction of grain into, our bazaars at that station.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

No. 360.

Perwanna from Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, directed to his Officers, Kardars, &c., at Kurachee.

IT has been made known to me that a great many merchants belonging to the town of Kurachee have erected their shops in the Sudder

Bazaar, and I by no means approve of the arrangement that any people belonging to the town of Kurachee, or other inhabitants of Sinde, should locate themselves in the English camp for the purposes of trade; it is likewise set forth in the renewed Treaty between the English Government and that of Hyderabad, that the British would not in any way take upon themselves the guardianship of Sindians, the subjects of the latter, or listen to any of their complaints. It therefore behoves you to confiscate the grounds of any merchants, inhabitants of the town of Kurachee or of Sinde, who have built houses or shops in the camp bazaar of Kurachee, or any persons who may have brought goods for sale within the precincts of the English camp. In addition, you will cause them to be placed* in like practices, for the Sirkar has lost much in the matter of duties by the practice which has hitherto obtained; it is therefore expedient that you act up to the orders now received, and on no account deviate from them; the execution of the same you are responsible for, and you will consider them peremptory.

No. 361.

The Governor-General to Major-General Sir Charles Napier.

(Extract.) *Bewar, August* 26, 1842.

IF you should not have already proceeded to Kurachee, in pursuance of the conditional instructions I sent to the Governor of Bombay, the substance of which was, at the time of the receipt thereof, communicated to you, you will now proceed, as soon as you can do so, to that port, and assume the command of all the troops in Sinde and Beloochistan.

Within the limits of your military command you will exercise entire authority over all political and civil officers.

You will keep possession of Kurachee, and draw all your force to Sukkur and its neighbourhood, as soon as the season and circumstances will permit you to do so.

Lieutenant Brown, Assistant Political Agent at Sukkur, has been directed to send all military and political reports to you at Kurachee, and, in particular, a statement of our relations with the Ameers, and of their recent conduct.

It may be convenient that you should at once be informed that, if the Ameers, or any one of them, should act hostilely, or evince hostile designs against our army, it is my fixed resolution never to forgive the breach of faith, and to exact a penalty which shall be a warning to every chief in India.

On the other hand, it is my intention to seize the first opportunity of bestowing substantial benefits upon the Khan of Bhawulpore, as a reward for the constant support which the British Government has received from him and his ancestors.

No. 362.

Minute by Sir George Arthur, Governor of Bombay, concurred in by Mr. Anderson.

(Extract.) *September* 2, 1842.

THE intelligence which has reached us from various quarters, within the last few days, from Upper and Lower Sinde, renders it in my opinion highly desirable, that we should, if possible, strengthen the force now stationed at Kurachee, in order to enable the General Officer commanding in Sinde, to call, when the necessity arises, for reinforcements to the troops now stationed at Sukkur and other places in Upper Sinde.

There can be no doubt that most of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde have, for some time past, been engaged in intrigues against us; in fact, that they only want the power, not the will, to make an

* Sic in orig.

attempt, in imitation of the tribes of Affghanistan, to expel us from their country.

The following extracts from the digests of the Sinde Agencies, from the 9th to 15th ultimo, place beyond doubt the hostile spirit and excitement which prevail, and at the same time indicate the cause, which will, if precautions are not adopted, probably cause it to break out into active operation.

"The intelligence of the British having evacuated Candahar, or, as is here rumoured, having been expelled from it, has caused much excitement; and the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde are consulting together as to future measures. Sikh vakeels are on the eve of quitting Khyrpore with handsome presents for Shere Sing. Letters have been received from Affghanistan by the Ameers, reminding them, that they are tributaries of the Affghan Government, and warning them how to act."

The above relates to Upper Sinde. In Lower Sinde, if possible, a more hostile spirit exists. From the digest of the 6th of August, it appears one of the principal Ameers (Nusseer Khan) has already committed an overt act of hostility, by prohibiting, under the severest penalties (imprisonment and entire confiscation of property), any subjects of Sinde from establishing shops, or even trading with the military bazaar at Kurachee. The same digest goes on to state, that confidential agents are about to be sent from Hyderabad to Khyrpore, "to consult with the Upper Sinde Ameers, as to leaguing against us;" and "much excitement prevails in Hyderabad, regarding the report of the British having been expelled from Candahar, which is stated to have come from Kelat;" and lastly, a native officer, stationed by the Ameers at Kurachee, is stated to have been recalled, merely because he is supposed to be friendly towards us.

These indications ought not to be neglected; measures should be adopted either to prevent the Ameers from proceeding to extremities, or to punish them, should such be deemed necessary, for what they have already done. To delay, until we can communicate with the Governor-General of India, might defeat the object in view; and I would therefore propose that another European regiment be sent to Kurachee as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made for its embarkation, either in our own steamers, or in hired transports.

No. 363.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Major Outram.

(Extract.) *Simla, September* 11, 1842.

YOU will have the goodness to lay before Sir Charles Napier, in the shortest and clearest form, the state of our relations with the Ameers of Hyderabad, and all the other chiefs in Sinde and Beloochistan, referring him to the treaties entered into with the Ameers and chiefs, of which treaties copies should be made for the Major-General's convenience.

You will explain to the Major-General the actual state of things, shewing him what has been done by the Ameers and chiefs in pursuance of the treaties, and placing before him, with judicial accuracy, the several acts whereby the Ameers or chiefs may have seemed to have departed from the terms or spirit of their engagements, and to have evinced hostility or unfriendliness towards the Government of India.

No. 364.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir Charles Napier.

Sir, *Simla, September* 11, 1842.

I AM directed by the Governor-General to inclose, for your information, a copy of a letter this day addressed, by his Lordship's orders, to Major Outram, desiring him to lay before you a view of the relations of the British Government with the Ameers and chiefs within the limits of your command, and of their past and recent conduct.

2. You will, if you deem it expedient, instruct Major Outram to join you at an earlier period, and at any other place than that mentioned in the letter to that officer.

3. Should any Ameer or chief with whom we have a Treaty of Alliance and Friendship, have evinced hostile designs against us, during the late events which may have induced them to doubt the continuance of our power, it is the present intention of the Governor-General to inflict upon the treachery of such ally and friend, so signal a punishment as shall effectually deter others from similar conduct; but the Governor-General would not proceed in this course without the most ample and convincing evidence of the guilt of the person accused.

4. The Governor-General entirely relies upon your sense of justice, and is convinced that whatever report you may make upon the subject (after full investigation) will be such as he may safely act upon.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 365.

Lieutenant Mylne, Assistant Political Agent, to the Political Agent in Sinde.

(Extract.) *Hyderabad, October* 1, 1842.

I FIND that, after all, on the day of their going to their shikargah on the other side of the river, the Ameers dispatched, or rather, I should say, Meer Nusseer dispatched, people to apprehend the Nao Mull at Kurachee, and has quoted me as having given permission. Preedy and Gordon both write to me, that Nao Mull was on the point of writing to Hyderabad to compromise matters with the Ameers, and pay up the duty upon the things he has imported and sold under their permission and the Ameers perwanna months ago, but that they had dissuaded him. Now it appears to me to be of the utmost importance to show the Ameers that we will not allow them to infringe our rights in the smallest degree; I have therefore addressed to them a letter, a translation of which I inclose, and I trust you will agree with me, that the occasion warrants the plain language I have used; for I contend, that the Ameers have no more right to seize Nao Mull than they have me, and that if we allow Nao Mull to pay the money, we admit the Ameers' right to it—the very point we are now labouring to prove the contrary of. I forget if I mentioned to you, that Meer Mahomed and Nusseer think of writing a letter to the effect, that we had better take their country altogether, and let them go to Mecca; they will get over that tantrum before they come in from their shikargah, I dare say. They are in a fright that we have brought down Timour Shah to establish him at Shikarpore.

Yesterday I got messages from Sobdar and Shahdad, about the fuel-cutting; the former said, that so little wood has he, that he has been obliged to beg from Shahdad enough to put the fences of his own shikargah in order; and Shahdad said, he would be very happy to give me anything else for which I like to ask, but that hunting being dearer to him than all the rest of the world put together, he could not and would not grant permission to cut wood; and though the Moonshee assured both Ameers that we do not wish in any way to interfere with their pre-

serves, yet they said they could not allow any to be cut. It is a delicate point with them, as, doubtless, you found, when here. I am still without any answer from any of them to the General's letter. Is there no possible means of getting Meer Meer Mahomed out of the hands of Nusseer? I am told that the old man sometimes hangs down his head for very shame, and says that he is utterly unable to get the better of Nusseer and Mahomed Khan.

No. 366.

Substance of a Letter from Lieutenant Mylne to Meer Nusseer Khan.

Hyderabad, October 1, 1842.

I HAVE been informed that your Highness has sent people to apprehend Nao Mull Seth, the British Government's Native Agent at Kurachee, and that the reason assigned for this act is, that he has taken into camp and sold goods free of duty; moreover, that it is stated that my permission was asked and granted for his seizure. I trust Lieutenant Gordon has been wrongly informed, and I am sorry to be obliged to trouble your Highness at any time, more especially when you are hunting; but I think it my duty, as a friend, to inform you, in the first place, that Nao Mull, being a servant of the British Government, and in its monthly pay, you have no more right to seize him, without the permission of that Government, than you have to seize me; and, in the second, he has only done as authorized by your own perwannah, given many months ago; my Government will not permit its servants to be unjustly treated, and I would advise you to revoke your order. If my name has been made use of, it has been falsely so used, and I request you to punish the informant.

No. 367.

Lieutenant Brown to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 2, 1842.

BY direction of Major Outram, I have the honor to forward, for submission to the Governor-General of India, copies of two letters, of the 13th ultimo, and of the 17th ultimo, with their inclosures, which I addressed to him relative to duties levied on boats by the Kardars of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

Since writing the above letters, however, to the Political Agent, the Ameer has furnished perwannahs directing that taxes shall not be levied on boats in transit, except when the property of the subjects of Sinde.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

No. 368.

Lieutenant Brown to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 5, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to forward translation of a petition, dated the 29th ultimo, received from Peer Ibrahim, our Native Agent at Bhawulpore, and its inclosures, and beg to call your attention to the infraction of the Treaty in the order sent by his Highness Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to his Kardar Jeyt Mull.

I am aware that, after much trouble, Lieutenant Mylne has succeeded in obtaining from the Ameer a second order to the Kardar to allow boats

of individuals not subjects of Sinde, to pass free of duty; but, even if the order be acted up to, in the mean time, by the above infraction of the Treaty, much harm has been done. The merchants have been subjected to much loss, have unladen their boats, and the treatment they have received will naturally deter other merchants from pursuing this route.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

No. 369.

Peer Ibrahim, Native Agent at Bhawulpore, to Lieutenant Brown.

September 29, 1842.

I HAVE received your perwannah, dated the 19th of September, 1842, together with a copy of a letter from Meer Roostum Khan, and directing that the contents of the same should be made known to the Soukars, so as to put their minds at ease. I accordingly apprised each of them of the subject thereof, and comforted them. On the 23rd of September I also forwarded copies of Meer Roostum's letter and your perwanna, together with my report, to Mr. Clerk, the Governor-General's agent, and his assistant, Mr. Greathed, at Ferozepore. The Soukars aforesaid, having gained confidence upon the contents of Meer Roostum's letter, &c., being explained to them, sent their people to Mithun Kote and Bhoong Bhara to dispatch certain laden boats towards Sukkur. Yesterday Pokur Doss Soukar received a note from his agent, and to-day the Soukar sent me his petition, together with a copy of a perwanna from Meer Nusseer Khan (of Hyderabad), directed to Jeyt Mull, his Kardar at Subzulkote, ordering him to stop boats. I therefore send you a copy of the perwanna in question, together with the petition of the Soukar. I beg to mention that, in consequence of the Meer's people (Meer Nusseer Khan) detaining the boats of these Soukars and others near Bhoong Bhara, they (the Soukars) are very much perplexed, and have emptied one or two boats at Bhawulpore, which were laden and ready to start. I am in hopes that you will make an arrangement in this matter, and according to former usage, so that the Meer's people may not offer this hindrance, but that protection may be offered to the boats.

No. 370.

Petition of Pokur Doss, Soukar, to Peer Ibrahim.

Bhawulpore, September 28, 1842.

ACCORDING to the orders received from Captain Brown, I and other merchants were gratified to learn that the passage of the Indus would again become free, and from the contents of Meer Roostum's letter, were also pleased to find that certain taxes which were exacted were to be returned to us by the Kardar of Bhoong Bhara; however, I and my friends having consulted together, agreed that, until the boats detained at Mithun Kote and other places, were allowed to proceed without molestation towards Sukkur, there was no cause for confidence; however, trusting to the information conveyed by the Government employés, I and others sent people to dispatch the boats, which was accordingly done; and just now I have received a note from my servant, by name Emambux, to say, "that when he neared Bhoong Bhara with the boats laden with grain, &c., in the territory of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, the Chokeedars of the Ghaut got on board their boats, and called out to the Mullahs to bring to, firing off their guns at the same time to exact obedience. The Mullahs fortunately escaped, but three balls lodged in one of the oars; being helpless, he therefore brought to the boats, and went to the Mookdars of Meer Nusseer Khan, by name Datá Ram and Abdool Hakeem, who were stationed at the village called Noob to stop

all boats; and although he importuned them, it had no effect, and they showed him a perwannah of Meer Nusseer Khan's, authorizing them to act in the way they had done, and said that until the Meer's orders were received to the contrary, or a perwannah from Jeyt Mull, they could not do otherwise than stop all boats passing up and down." My servant is therefore stopped there with the boats, as well as others belonging to merchants of the place and Mithun Kote. I and others were ambitious of dispatching boats under the auspices of the Sirkar Ungreez, and did so in the present instance, relying upon the security held out; the boats being detained in a foreign territory, much injury is likely to accrue, and in this case we look entirely to the protection of the Sirkar Ungreez; and if such things occur, namely, the constant stoppage of boats, there will be an end to all trade. I am in hopes that the boats which are detained will be set free, and allowed to proceed on to Sukkur; and in future, until the passage of the river is entirely open, I and others do not intend to load any boats for dispatch; for we expect to derive some profit, and not loss.

No. 371.

Sir C. Napier to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 5, 1842.

I ARRIVED this day at Sukkur, and find your letter dated 11th September. I shall be strictly guided thereby, in my proceedings towards the Ameers.

2. In passing by Hyderabad, I thought it right to pay my respects to the Ameers.

3. These princes do not appear to be acting loyally, and I desired Lieutenant Mylne to give them the letter, of which I inclose a copy. It appeared to me improper to allow the wording of one article in a treaty to neutralize the whole spirit of the treaty, which it must have been the intention of every article to enforce. The Ameers attempt to prevent supplies coming into our camp at Kurachee, and our remonstrance is treated by them as an infringement of the Treaty, Article V.

4. The wording of this article may admit of cavil, and of this the Ameers seemed disposed to take advantage. I saw but one mode of getting rid of this subterfuge, It was to reject their statement, that we had violated the treaty, in listening to the complaints made against them by their own subjects. I insisted, that, on the contrary, the complaint is made by us on our own account, against the Ameers; this is the truth. The protection to their subjects against the oppression of the Ameers, may be a consequence resulting from the Treaty; but offers no excuse for this breach of the Treaty.

5. The Ameers levy tolls on the river. This is a direct breach of the Treaty (Article XI). I find that they have ordered the toll to be levied on the boats of the merchants of Bhawulpore, as well as on their own boats.

6. To my remonstrances with the Ameers of Hyderabad, no answer has been returned, yet I considered the warning which that communication gave to the Ameers, to be fair and honorable towards their Highnesses. They have the right to reject my interpretation of the treaty; but then, let them give their own, for the decision of the Governor-General; and on that decision, they can take their own ground as independent Princes.

7. I hope that the Governor-General will approve of my having, by my letter, placed Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad in such a position, that he must either avow his hostility openly, or conform to the treaty. He will probably do the last, as far as words go, but continue to play the same underhand game that he now does; but then, after the distinct warning that has been given to him, the case against him will become more strong.

8. It has been since my arrival here, that I have heard of Nusseer

Khan's having levied tolls on, and fired into, the boats of the Bhawulpore merchants, navigating the Indus under the supposed protection of the Treaty. This case appears to me so important, that I have directed Lieutenant Brown to obtain the proofs necessary to establish the fact of this transaction, which I hope to receive in about ten days, and shall forward immediately to you, for the information of the Governor-General.

9. I have written to Lieutenant Mylne to ask for a copy of the order, or perwanna, which he tells the Ameers they had given to Nao Mull many months ago, to sell goods in the British cantonments free of duty; also a copy of the order from Nusseer Khan to apprehend this man. I do not understand why any permission was required or received from the Ameer. The 12th and 13th Articles of the Treaty forbid the Ameers to levy duty on goods sold in the British cantonments, therefore no permission to do so was necessary, and should not have been accepted by any British subject or servant, as it casts a reflection on the integrity of the Treaty. When I receive these perwannas, I shall be able to judge of their character and tendency. If necessary, I will forward them to you.

I inclose herewith the various documents upon which my letter has been grounded.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 372.

Sir C. Napier to the Ameers of Hyderabad.

Hyderabad, September 25, 1842.

GENERAL NAPIER has been informed—

First. That your Highnesses have prohibited the inhabitants of Kurachee to settle in the Bazaar.

Second. That you have ordered everything landed at the Bunder to be, in the first instance, taken to the Custom-house, and taxed.

Third. That your Highnesses levy tolls on the boats belonging to the subjects of Sinde.

Fourth. That your Highnesses ground your infraction of the articles, ords, and spirit of the Treaty, upon Article V of that Treaty.

Upon the above four points General Napier does, in the most explicit manner, state,—

First. That the Governor-General of India will not suffer the slightest infraction of the Treaty.

Second. That Article V of the Treaty does not, and cannot, guarantee to the Ameers the power to break any other Article of the Treaty, still less the spirit of the Treaty throughout.

No complaints, made by the subjects of the Ameers against their princes, have been listened to by the British authorities. The complaint is made by the British themselves, that the Ameers have broken the Treaty regarding tolls; that they have insidiously endeavoured to cut off the supply of provisions from the cantonments, and to interfere with the regulations made within those cantonments.

General Napier therefore informs the Ameers, that they must at once furnish the acting Political Agent, Lieutenant Mylne, with an order to the Kardar of Shikarpore, directing him to abstain from every direct or indirect toll on boats, whether they, the said boats, belong to Sinde, or otherwise. And a second order to the authorities of Kurachee, commanding them to refrain from any, the slightest hindrance, to the convenience and supplies of the inhabitants within the British cantonments at that station.

Instructions shall be given to the Bazaar Master that he may render every assistance in his power to the revenue officer of their Highnesses, in order to prevent smuggling from the cantonments into the town of Kurachee; and every person detected in such an offence shall be delivered over to the Ameers.

If the Ameers decline to give these two orders, General Napier will report the same to the Governor-General, whose severe displeasure, it is hoped that their Highnesses will not be willing to incur by an infringement of the Treaty, and thereby break the friendship existing between their Highnesses and the British Government.

No. 373.

Sir C. Napier to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, October* 7, 1842.

I HAVE this day received information from Lieutenant Mylne, that the Ameer Sobdar Khan immediately complied with the request contained in my letter to their Highnesses, dated 25th of September.

To give every encouragement to this spirit of good will, and loyal execution of the Treaty, I have written to his Highness the letter of which I send you a copy.

No. 374.

Sir C. Napier to the Ameer Sobdar Khan.

Sukkur, October 7, 1842.

I HAVE been informed by Mr. Mylne, that your Highness has, in compliance with my letter, dated 25th September, ordered your Highness' servants to conduct themselves in strict accordance with the Treaty of 14 Articles; and I lose no time in expressing to your Highness the satisfaction which this loyal conduct, on the part of your Highness, will give to the Governor-General of India, to whom I have made an immediate report of the friendship which your Highness has, on this occasion, evinced towards the British Government.

No. 375.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir Charles Napier.

Sir, *Simla, October* 14, 1842.

I AM directed by the Governor-General to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and its several inclosures, and to acquaint you that the Governor-General entirely approves of your letter to their Highnesses the Ameers of Hyderabad, dated the 25th of September.

2. The Governor-General requests that you will cause inquiry to be made into every instance in which the free navigation of the River Indus, provided by Article XI of the Treaty with the Ameers, has been infringed, and that you will cause full compensation to be made by the Ameers to the several parties aggrieved by such infringement.

3. All duties levied by the Ameers in contravention of the proviso in Article XII of the Treaty upon goods sold in a British camp or cantonment, must be similarly refunded.

4. You have very properly informed the Ameers that the Governor-General will not suffer the slightest infraction of the Treaty, and you will now inform their Highnesses, that the Governor-General has directed

you to use the force at your disposal, for the purpose of compelling the observance of it by them, if they should not at once give such orders as may prevent further infraction of it, and provide compensation for those who have been aggrieved.

5. The Governor-General desires that you will at the same time intimate to their Highnesses, that you are authorized to treat with them for a revision of the Treaty, and that the Governor-General is willing, upon proper and just conditions, to relieve them from the future payment of tribute to the British Government.

6. The Governor-General observes that the most recent communications from the Ameers inclosed in your letter, make it obvious that a revised Treaty must contain stringent provisions with respect to the cutting of wood upon the banks of the river, for the use of the steamers, unless it should appear on a minute calculation of the comparative expense and advantage of supplying the steamers with wood, or with English coal, that the latter is upon the whole the most eligible mode of supply.

7. The Governor-General requests that you will take this subject into your consideration, bearing always in mind that, if we are to retain our position upon the Indus, the ultimate demand for fuel will be very largely increased, and such perhaps as the woods near the river may be unable to supply. So much of prejudice, and of feeling too, is attached by the Ameers to their shikargahs being unmolested, that probably matters of much more importance might be obtained from them more easily than the permission to cut wood for the use of the steamers.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 376.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, October 23, 1842.*

THE principal information I possess, relative to the circumstances of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, is contained in two letters of the 26th of June and 9th of July respectively, from Major Outram and Lieutenant Brown, written in reply to one of inquiry addressed to Major Outram, by Mr. Maddock, by my direction.

I am very anxious to be enabled, as the result of any new arrangement with the Ameers, to have at my disposal the pergunnas of Bhoong Bhara, and, if possible, Subzulkote likewise, in order to bestow them in free gift upon the Khan of Bhawulpore. No chief in India deserves so well of the British Government, as that Khan. He and his family have been faithful for three generations, and I know no measure which would be so conducive to our reputation and influence; certainly, there is none that would be so gratifying to myself, as to be enabled to make this gift to him. The cession should be made to us, and then we should give it over to the Khan; and, as there may be some difficulty in the proposed arrangement with the Ameers, it would be better to say nothing to the Khan till the thing is done.

I shall be glad to receive from you, as soon as you can form it, a sketch of the arrangement which you think it would be desirable to make with the Ameers.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 377.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, October* 23, 1842.

I AM inclined to think that the Ameer Nusseer Khan will be so wrong-headed, or so ill-advised, as to persist in refusing to observe the conditions of the Treaty; in which case he must be at once compelled to do so; and, if the Government is obliged to incur any expense for the purpose of so compelling him, the least punishment which can be inflicted upon him is that of defraying the expense.

But I should prefer depriving him of territory; and you will understand that, if you are under the necessity of making any movement of troops towards Hyderabad, the Ameer Nusseer Khan will forfeit all his property and right in Kurachee, Tatta, Shikarpore, Sukkur, the pergunnas adjoining the Bhawulpore country, and Subzulkote; and all the property and rights in these two last districts, whatever they may be, shall be immediately transferred to the Khan of Bhawulpore.

If you should be obliged to enter upon operations in the field, and any resistance whatever shall be offered to your troops, the whole property of the Ameer Nusseer Khan, of every description, shall be forfeited to the use of the British Government, and such distribution of it shall be made among those who have remained faithful, as shall hold out a valuable lesson to all the chiefs of India.

The whole of the army descending from Candahar will be at or near Sukkur by the 1st of December; and you will do well to lose no time in moving a force towards Hyderabad, should it be necessary.

You are authorized, for this purpose, to make any provision of boats you may deem expedient, to detain the steamer which I requested you to send to Ferozepore, and to use all the rockets.

You may likewise detain or recall the 19th Bombay Native Infantry, and the three Shah's battalions, if you want them.

I am in hopes that the 41st Queen's Regiment will leave Ferozepore for Sukkur about the 7th of January.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

P.S.—On referring to the papers, I find that Meer Nusseer Khan is understood to be the principal shareholder among the Ameers of Hyderabad, to whom four-sevenths of Shikarpore belong, but the exact amonnt of the share is not mentioned. In Tatta, he is not stated to have any interest. Of Subzulkote he possesses two-thirds. The pergunnas of Bhoong Bhara belong to Meer Roostum Khan.

The interest of Meer Nusseer Khan in Shikarpore would be more than an equivalent, probably, for the one-third of Subzulkote, which belongs to Meer Nusseer Ali of Hyderabad, and likewise for the pergunna of Bhoong Bhara; but if not, a portion, or the whole, of his tribute of one lac a year, might be used as an equivalent to procure the cession of the one-third part of Subzulkote, and of the pergunna, to the Khan of Bhawulpore.

No. 378.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, October* 25, 1842.

I RECEIVED this morning your two letters of the 17th.

You may be quite right with respect to the unfriendly intentions of the Ameers in assembling their troops, but I am satisfied you will weigh well the evidence you receive upon the subject of all the chiefs upon the Indus.

I will give my best attention to your Report respecting Shikarpore, when I receive it.

What has occurred to me upon the subject, is this:—

1st. That if we are to purchase it by the surrender of a portion of the tribute payable to us, we shall not have enough left to purchase the pergunnah I mentioned the other day; and,

2nd. That, under our protection, Sukkur would draw away all the trade from Shikarpore.

3rd. That the possession of Shikarpore would render necessary the employment of two, if not three, more regiments in the hottest part of India, and, I fear, not the most healthy, and in a position in which, during the summer, Europeans can hardly live.

Then, generally, we must look to the object of retaining any positions upon the Indus: that object is the protection of such trade as may be excited upon that river, and of our communications between the Sea and Ferozepore.

It is idle to suppose that any enemy will ever attempt to invade our territories by the Lower Indus.

I wish to have nothing whatever to do with the right bank of the Indus, except so far as it may be necessary, in order to protect the navigation of the river.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 379.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, October* 25, 1842.

I AM ashamed to send your Lordship an essay, rather than a letter, upon the state of Sinde. All that I have said is supported by documents inclosed to Mr. Maddock, placing under cover to your Lordship only those papers that are necessary. I wish I could have made my observations more concise, but I had to learn, as well as to describe, our position in Sinde, as regards the Ameers.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 379.

Observations by Sir C. Napier upon the occupation of Sinde.

October 17, 1842.

1. IT is not for me to consider how we came to occupy Sinde, but to consider the subject as it now stands, viz.: we are here by the right of treaties entered into by the Ameers; and, therefore, we stand on the same footing with themselves, for rights held under a treaty are as sacred as the right which sanctions that treaty.

2. There does not appear to be any public protest, registered by the Ameers, against the treaties. They must, therefore, be considered as the free expressions of the will of the Contracting Parties. Such, then, is the relative position of the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde at this time.

3. The English occupy Shikarpore, Bukkur, Sukkur, and Kurachee, by treaties, which, if rigidly adhered to by the Ameers, would render these Princes more rich and powerful, and their subjects more happy, than they now are.

4. If sticklers for abstract rights maintain—as no doubt they will—that to prevent a man from doing mischief is to enslave him, then it might be called hard to enforce a rigid observance of these treaties; but this is not the case. The evident object of these treaties is to favour our Indian interests, by the abolition of barbarism, by ameliorating the condition of society, and by obliging the Ameers to do, in compliance with treaties,

that which honorable and civilized rulers would do of their own accord. It is very necessary to keep this fact in view, because, although the desire to do good would not sanction a breach of treaty on our part, it does sanction our exacting a rigid adherence to the treaties on the part of the Ameers; and the more so, that their attempt to break such treaties evinces the barbarism of those Princes, their total want of feeling for their subjects, and their own unfitness to govern a country. These things must be always kept before the mind, or what I am about to say will appear unjust, which is not the case.

5. By treaty, the time for which we may occupy our present camps is unlimited; but there is such hostility to us on the part of the Ameers—such a hatred to the treaties—such a resolution to break them in every way; there is, among their people, such a growing attachment to the British rule, that, putting these facts together, the question arises whether we should abandon the interests of humanity, and those of the British Government (for in this case they are one), and at once evacuate Sinde; or, shall we take advantage of existing treaties, and maintain our camps permanently?

6. If we evacuate this country, future events will inevitably bring us back to the banks of the Indus.

7. If we remain, our camps will soon be filled with the subjects of the Ameers, flying from their oppression. These camps will thus quickly grow into towns, and the people within will carry on a transit trade along the Indus, to the exclusion of the subjects of the Ameers without. Among the latter, misery and poverty will sojourn; for the exactions of the Ameers will, in a great measure, destroy both commerce and agriculture among their people. Such appears to be the probable result, if we adhere rigidly to the Treaty, and permanently occupy our camps.

8. This produces another question, viz.: Is it possible that such a state of things can long continue? A Government hated by its subjects, despotic, hostile alike to the interests of the English, and of its own people; a Government of low intrigue, and, above all, so constituted that it must, in a few years, fall to pieces by the vice of its own construction; will such a Government, I ask, not maintain an incessant petty hostility against us? will it not incessantly commit breaches of treaties—those treaties by which alone, we have any right to remain in this country; and therefore must rigidly uphold? I conceive that such a state of political relations could not last, and that the more powerful Government would, at no very distant period, swallow up the weaker.

9. If this reasoning be correct, would it not be better to come to the results at once? I think it would be better, if it can be done with honesty. Let me first consider how we might go to work in a matter so critical, and whether the facts, to which I called attention in a former part of these observations, will bear me out in what I propose.

10. Several Ameers have broken the Treaty in the various instances stated in the accompanying "Return of Complaints" against them. I have maintained that we want only a fair pretext to coerce the Ameers, and I think the various acts recorded in the return*, give abundant reason to take Kurachee, Sukkur, Bukkur, Shikarpore, and Subzulkote, for our own; obliging the Ameers to leave a track-way along both banks of the Indus, and stipulate for a supply of wood; but at the same time, remitting all tribute, and arrears of tribute, in favour of those Ameers whose conduct has been correct; and, finally, enter into a fresh treaty with one of these Princes alone as Chief, and answerable for the others.

11. I cannot think that such a procedure would be either dishonorable, or harsh. I am sure it would be humane. The refractory Ameers break the Treaty, for the gratification of their avaricious dispositions; and we punish that breach. I can perceive no injustice in such proceeding.

12. If it be determined to keep possession of Sukkur and Bukkur, I do not think it would be politic to give up Shikarpore; my reasons for this opinion are as follows:—The town of Sukkur stands on an elbow of

* Return of Complaints, page 369.

the Indus, which surrounds the town on two sides; on the other two, at about four miles distance, it is closed in by a large jungle, through which passes the road to Shikarpore where the jungle finishes. Now, if we evacuate Shikarpore, the robber tribes will descend from the hills, and establish themselves in this jungle; so that Sukkur will be blockaded; and no one be able to move beyond the chain of sentries, without being murdered. To clear this jungle with infantry would be impossible; the robbers would retreat before the advancing troops, and when the latter retired, the former would again occupy their position in the jungle. But, if we occupy Shikarpore, a body of cavalry stationed there, would spread along the outskirt of the jungle, while infantry would (by concert) push through the wood from Sukkur. The robbers, thus cut off from their hills, would receive such a terrible punishment, as to deter any other tribe from trying the same experiment.

13. In a commercial point, I consider Shikarpore to be of considerable importance. It forms a depôt for the reception of goods from the north and west; with which countries it has long possessed channels of communication; circumstances of an adverse nature may for a while interrupt these; but, under a firm protecting Government, they would soon be again opened out; and from Shikarpore goods would be sent to Sukkur, there to be shipped on the Indus, and would also be passed by land to Larkhana, and thence on to Kurachee. These seem formerly to have been the great lines of trade. They are geographically and naturally so, and will therefore quickly revive. But if Shikarpore be left to the mercy of the surrounding gangs of freebooters, commerce cannot thrive, nor, without Shikarpore be strongly guarded, can it pass through the jungle to Sukkur. These two towns are so placed as naturally to support each other in commerce.

14. In a political light, Shikarpore has the advantage of being chiefly inhabited by a Hindoo population, tolerated for ages by the Mussulmans, and, consequently, forming a pacific link of intercourse between us and the nations north and west; through Shikarpore, these Hindoos will be the means of gradually filtering the stream of commerce, and social intercourse between the Mahomedans and ourselves, and, in time, unite those who will not abruptly amalgamate. Shikarpore contains many rich banking houses, which is a sure evidence of its being a central point of communication between the surrounding countries, and, consequently, one where the British Government would learn what was going on in Asia. The money market is, generally speaking, the best political barometer.

15. The robber tribes in this neighbourhood, have kept down this town in despite of its natural and acquired advantages; in fact, the robber is every where the master. Therefore all around is barbarous, and barbarous must continue to be, till civilization gradually encroaches upon these lawless people; and, I think, Shikarpore is precisely one of those grand positions that ought to be seized upon for that purpose. I have, therefore, directed Major-General England not to evacuate this town till further instructions are received from the Governor-General.

16. I shall keep this memorandum till the arrival of Major Outram, and will request of him to peruse it, that he may give his opinion* upon the view which I have taken; an opinion, which his experience of these countries, his abilities, and the high situation in which he has been placed by the Governor-General, all render very important. If Major Outram concurs in the opinions which I have ventured to express, they will be strengthened; if not, the Governor-General will be made acquainted with the objections of one possessing great local knowledge.

17. I have drawn up this memorandum entirely on my own consideration of the subject; but, since Major Outram's arrival, which took place when I finished the last paragraph, he has given me every possible assistance. He concurs in all I have said in the foregoing paragraphs, but, at the same time, he has added much to my local knowledge, and, in justice to the Ameers, I must, with this increase of information,

* See paper headed "Remarks," page 368.

enlarge upon what I have stated. The Ameers say, that they did not understand Article XI of the Treaty with Hyderabad, to prohibit the levying of tolls on their own subjects. It seems that they urge, in proof of their misconception, that they resisted the signing the Treaty, because of other Articles, less important, yet never objected to Article XI, because they relied upon Article V. This may be, and I would willingly, if possible, suppose that they really did conceive that the Treaty gave them the right of levying tolls on their own subjects; but my answer is, that they have attempted to levy tolls on the boats of the Khan of Bhawulpore, which the Treaty assuredly does not give them any right to do; and they have even fired into the boats of merchants from that place. The Treaty could not be misconstrued on these points, and, therefore, I do not believe that they misconstrued the terms of the Treaty, but broke Article XI purposely. The Treaty has also been broken by treasonable correspondence, and other vexatious acts, as set forth in the accompanying return*.

18. Now, what will be the punishment which I propose to inflict for their misconduct, amount to? Injury to their family? No! Injury to their subjects? No! To what then? To the reduction of their territory by four places; two of which (Sukkur and Bukkur) are barren spots, yielding no revenue, and the other two (Kurachee and Shikarpore) towns that their tyranny has nearly ruined; and for one of which, Shikarpore, we have negotiations yet pending; and, to obtain these places in seignorage, it is proposed to remit all tribute in arrear, and, for the future, withdraw our resident from Hyderabad, ensure the amelioration of the impoverished state, in which their subjects now languish, and in time, add to the power and wealth of the Ameers themselves, by opening the commerce of the river.

19. To their selfish feelings and avarice, and love of hunting, are such great general interests to be sacrificed? I think not; the real interests of the Ameers themselves, demand that their puerile pursuits and blind avaricious proceedings should be subjected to a wholesome control, which their breaches of treaties, and our power, give us, at this moment, a lawful right to exercise, and the means of peaceably enforcing. If any civilized man were asked the question, "Were you the ruler of Sinde, what would you do?" His answer would be, "I would abolish the tolls upon the rivers, make Kurachee a free port, protect Shikarpore from robbers, make Sukkur a mart for trade on the Indus. I would make a track-way along its banks; I would get steam-boats." Yet all this is what the Ameers dread.

20. They have broken treaties, they have given a pretext, and I have a full conviction (perhaps erroneously) that what I propose is just and humane. I will go further, and say that, as Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad has openly broken the Treaty, if the Governor-General chooses to punish him, he might justly seize the district of Subzulkote, and give it to the Khan of Bhawulpore, as I have understood there was some intention of doing.

21. The second point to which Major Outram has drawn my attention is a very strong one. He tells me that the tribes on the river above that part possessed by the Ameers of Sinde, do levy tolls, and that there is no treaty or public document forthcoming, in virtue of which we can call upon the Ameers, of even Upper Sinde, not to levy tolls upon their own subjects. It is therefore evident, that to call upon the Ameers of Hyderabad to desist from levying tolls, and to allow the tribes above them on the river to do so, would be unjust; that is to say, it would be unjust to allow the others to levy tolls, but not unjust to prevent the Ameers from doing so. The answer to the argument, "That tolls are levied on the Northern Indus," is just this: we should say to these northern tribes, "We have with great trouble secured to your boats a free passage on the river through Sinde; we are resolved to open the commerce of this great highway of nations; and you, who all receive benefit, must join in this great measure for the good of all, and to the

* See "Return of Complaints," page 369.

loss of none. Therefore, to excuse the Ameers upon the ground that others are not equally coerced, is answered by coercing the others.

22. Having thus given the best view that I can take of this intricate subject, I shall accompany this report by various documents, among which there is one giving a kind of return*, if I may so call it, of the accusations against the Ameers; upon which accusations, relative to which I have read every paper, I have founded my opinion of their conduct; and, by referring to this return, it will be seen whether I have justly estimated the complaints made against them by the Political Agents.

23. I have also added the documents verifying each transaction. I have also begged of Major Outram to give me a memorandum of the state in which the Treaty with the Ameers, for the purchase of Shikarpore, remains, as it has been in abeyance since last year. From this memorandum it would appear, that, in addition to the great advantages to Sukkur, which would attend the occupation of Shikarpore, this district would be a very valuable acquisition, in point of revenue, in time; and cover, with the aid of Kurachee, the expense of guarding our newly acquired towns on the banks of the Indus.

24. Should it hereafter be deemed proper to make the proposed arrangements with the Ameers, so as to punish those who have broken the Treaty, the details of such arrangements can be easily made. The transfer of tribute† due would adequately repay whatever portions of the districts in question belong to the Ameers, whose conduct has been loyal when compared with that of the others.

* Inclosure 4 in No. 379, page 370.

† See Return Z, page 367.

Z.—A Return, shewing the balance between the Annual Value of Revenue of the Towns which it is proposed to hold, and the Tribute proposed to be remitted.

Places.	Annual Value of the different Ameers' portion of each Town.			The Annual Tribute of each Ameer.	Arrears due up to 1st Feb., 1843.	Debt due to us, advanced to the Shah Shooja for the Ameers.	Total due to us, including Interest at 6 per cent.	Remarks.
Shikarpore ..	Hyderabad.	Meer Shadad	34,357	50,000				By this table it will be seen that by the exchange of *land* for *money*, the Ameers would gain annually 33,856 rupees. Therefore, if the value calculations of their territory be just, this sum may be given to them in consideration that 100 yards of wood be left (inland) along both banks of the river, to cut wood for the steamers. If the Ameers prove that an under-valuation has been made, their error in this sum to make up the deficiency in this last case, as the right to purchase and cut wood, is a point we cannot give up; we must insist upon it as the necessary result of their bad faith, and constant breach of Treaty. After all, what is it? an interference with their system of devastating immense tracts of country to fill with wild beasts! besides, we *buy* the wood, it is not taken without payment. C. NAPIER, *Maj. Gen.*
Sukkur ..		Meer Hoossein	32,857	50,000				
Bukkur ..		Meer Nusseer	84,914	1,00,000				
	Khyrpore.	Meer Roostum	1,03,203					
		Meer Nusseer	84,943	1,00,000	4,00,000	7,00,000	13,28,000	
		Meer Ali Moorad ..	39,850					
		Meer Mahomed	15,700					
Kurachee ..	Hyderabad.	Meer Nusseer	25,000					
		Meer Meer Mahomed ..	25,000					
		Meer Noor Mahomed ..	25,000					
		Meer Sobdar	25,000					
		Total	A*4,95,824					
		Meer Mahomed		1,00,000				
		Meer Shere Mahomed		50,000				
				B 4,50,000	C 4,00,000	7,00,000	D* 13,28,000	

MEMORANDUM.

From total annual value of the places we require	A*	4,95,824
Take annual amount of tribute remitted	B*	4,50,000
Remains the annual loss to the Ameers		45,824
But against this set the interest on 13,28,000 remitted	D*	79,680
Remain an annual gain to the Ameers, of		33,856 Rupees.

Inclosure 2 in No. 379.

"REMARKS."

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 20, 1842.

THE following are the only remarks that occur to me to offer on the paper of observations which you are pleased to require my opinion on.

2. With reference to the second paragraph thereof, I beg to observe, that Colonel Pottinger's original Treaty with the Lower Sinde Ameers, of Twenty-three Articles, which was subscribed by them on the approach of our army to Hyderabad, was not ratified by Lord Auckland, who substituted the existing Treaty of Fourteen Articles, which, however, the Ameers demurred to accept, and were only induced to ratify after much delay on learning our successes at Cabool, and that our armies were on their return. The present Treaty is more stringent than the one they had previously agreed to, which limited the number of British troops at any time to be located in Sinde, and confined them to the occupation of Tatta alone.

3. On your third paragraph, I have to remark that, by a separate Article of the Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, our occupation of the fortress of Bukkur is pledged to be only temporary "during the existence of war."

4. Seventh paragraph. Our camps will afford a refuge to the trading classes of Sinde, as would the district of Shikarpore (if a British possession) to the agricultural. And it appears to me, that the only method by which we can compel the Ameers to good government, without the direct interference, which is so much to be deprecated, is by the example of our own better government over the spots we secure in the heart of their country, and which, as giving refuge to Sinde subjects who are driven by tyranny to seek it, would oblige the Ameers to rule better, in order to preserve their people.

5. Tenth paragraph. The parties who have most deeply committed themselves, are Meers Roostum and Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, and Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

6. Fourteenth paragraph. Were Shikarpore abandoned, and Sukkur established under British laws, the Hindoo population of Shikarpore would emigrate to Sukkur, and Shikarpore would soon become a ruin with its jungles inhabited only by banditti.

7. Seventeenth paragraph. However the fact may be as to the Ameers having misconstrued the 11th Article of the Treaty, or otherwise, the point, if now conceded, would be misinterpreted to our disadvantage, and encourage future demands; but I consider that the Ameers should now be required to relinquish such claims for ever, and, perhaps, might be more liberally considered in other matters consequently.

8. Twenty-first paragraph. Should Subzulkote be transferred to the Khan of Bhawulpore, his entire relinquishment of tolls throughout his portion of the river might be a condition.

9. Twenty-third paragraph. The information called for, regarding the state of the negotiation for the transfer of Shikarpore, and its estimated value, &c., shall be forwarded to you separately.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 3 in No. 379.

"RETURN OF COMPLAINTS."

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 14, 1842.

IN accordance with the orders I have received from the Governor-General of India, I have the honor to submit a memorandum of the several acts whereby the Ameers of Upper Sinde appear to me to have departed from the spirit of their engagements to the British Government, shewing four cases of breach of treaty, of late occurrence, with documents in proof, appended, and numbered from 1 to 4; and I beg to offer a few explanatory remarks.

2. The original letter alluded to in No. 1, addressed to Maharajah Shere Sing of Lahore, was transmitted by me to Mr. Clerk, the Governor-General's agent at Loodiana on the 1st of May last, with a view to that gentleman taking such steps as might be in his power to prove the authenticity of the document; regarding which I have received no reply, but I have again addressed Mr. Clerk on the subject. The object of the letter, as will be seen from the translation, although worded ambiguously, has evidently in view a coalition hostile to the British Government.

3. The case No. 2, although only brought home to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, may be reasonably attributed to the Khyrpore State, of which he is the responsible Minister; and is only one of many underhand efforts to incite insurrection against the British Government, which, although no distinct proof has been obtained, there is not the slightest doubt, have been repeatedly exerted by several of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, for some months past.

4. The maltreatment of a British subject, forming the 3rd case, has been admitted by Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, as having been committed by his agent, and regret has been expressed by the Ameer for the occurrence, but no punishment has been inflicted on the offending party, as called for by the Assistant Political Agent; on the contrary, the Syud continues to hold his position.

5. With respect to the obstructions of commerce referred to in the 4th case, I am bound to inform you that, although the Ameers of Upper Sinde have pledged themselves in their Treaty to co-operate with other Powers, "in any measures which may be hereafter thought necessary for extending and facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus," it does not appear on the records of this office, that any specific measures were ever agreed to, or that their Highnesses ever relinquished their right to tax their own subjects, although such is stated to be the fact by my predecessor, during whose life-time the matter was brought by me to the notice of Government, in connexion with my duties in Lower Sinde. This point involves so much of serious moment connected with our relations with the Ameers of both Upper and Lower Sinde; and it is of such importance that you should be fully acquainted with the rights of the subject that, though most reluctant to occupy so much of your time, I consider it my duty to request you to look over the correspondence marked A*; and copies of the correspondence relating to the previous questions, are also appended in full, that I may run no risk of withholding a particle of information where interests of such importance are at stake.

6. A separate memorandum of cases connected with the Ameers of Lower Sinde, is in the course of preparation for you.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

P.S.—Case No. 5 has since been appended, which I was scrupulous in submitting, as it does not appear that any reparation beyond release was demanded.

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* Page 384.

Inclosure 4 in No. 379.

Memorandum of the several acts whereby the Ameers of Upper Sinde seem to have departed from the terms of, or spirit of, their engagements to the British Government, drawn up for the information of Major-General Sir Charles Napier.

Date of Transaction.	Name of Offending Party.	Nature of Imputed Breach of Treaty.	Page
No. 1. No date on the document, but intercepted on the 28th April, 1842.	Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.	A letter addressed to Shere Sing of Lahore, of a treasonable nature, and a breach of the 4th Article of the Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, executed on the 24th of December, 1838, which runs thus:—"The Ameer and his heirs and successors, will not enter into any negotiation with any Chief or State, without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government."	370
No. 2. June 5, 1842.	Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, Confidential Minister of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.	Compassing the flight of a state prisoner, Syud Mahomed Shureef, and employing the same to raise insurrection against the British Government at Beloochistan.	371
No. 3. September 28, 1842.	Syud Bahadoor Ali, Agent of Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore.	Placing in the stocks, and otherwise maltreating, the servant of a British officer, and no punishment inflicted on the offender by the Ameer his master.	377
No. 4. September, 1842.	Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.	Case of stoppage and exaction of duties affecting British property, at Bhoong Bhara, on the Indus, being a breach of the 8th Article of the Treaty, above referred to, as obstructing the commerce and navigation on the Indus, *i.e.*, "Meer Roostum Khan promises all co-operation with the other Powers in any measures which may hereafter be thought necessary for extending and facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus."	379
No. 5.	Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.	Seizing and confining British subjects; released on demand, but no reparation afforded. J. OUTRAM.	381

Case No. 1.

Inclosure 5 in No. 379.

Literal Translation of a Letter under the seal of His Highness Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, to the Maharajah Shere Sing of Lahore.

THE letter of that friend on the subject of strengthening and renewing former treaties and cementing the confederacy, has been seen by the reapers of benefit, of high destiny and propitious fortune, Meer Mahomed Hoossein Khan, the eldest son of this friend, and Meer Nusseer Khan, the eldest son of this friend's brother, Meer Moobaruck Khan, deceased, and they are thankful and grateful for the same; but the case is this:—In the former Treaty, which was drawn up with great care and earnest deliberation, and sent to that exalted in design, every minute particular under one head, and with one design, was not recorded, but verbal promises of mine with my seal, the seals of the above parties not being included; also

in that Treaty the names of Mahomed Hoossein Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan are thus included; that after me Meer Mahomed Hoossein Khan in my place, and Meer Nusseer Khan in his father's, shall inherit the country; and according to the former Treaty they should be subject to that Government, and hopeful to the kindness which has been extended to this slave of God. Let us suppose this Treaty to be sufficient for these parties; but if the satisfaction of that party be not provided for by that Treaty, let a strictly secret and highly confidential agent be sent with a sketch of a treaty in the name of the above parties; it can be clearly drawn up here, the seals of both affixed, and returned to the confidential agent, and the parties will call for a new treaty from that side. Now, as to that which is written respecting the change of disposition of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, full particulars, such as are requisite and called for to be given, viz.:—"This well-wisher must be aware of what his intentions are, let it be written from what has been taken." (What does he propose to do?) Now I, immediately on the receipt of your letter, sent a confidential cossid with a letter in my own hand-writing on this subject, to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

Meer Nusseer Khan is firm and fixed in his own word, though occasionally, through the temptations of some parties, there is short-sightedness; and he said, "That against this tribe, the mention of which excites rebellion in your mind, the Maharajah, for so far and large a country cannot assist you."

Certainly, the Ameer aforesaid had become desponding; at length, through the agency of this well-wisher, and great exertions on the part of the high and exalted sincere friend, Meean Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who is master of all the thoughts and actions of this well-wisher, the Meer Nusseer Khan has become stronger and firmer than ever; moreover, a pair of cossids from that quarter will separately arrive at that friend's; let his mind be perfectly satisfied on this head.

Now, I want one promise, and so also does Meer Nusseer Khan, viz.:—Let all friendship be abandoned with my other brothers, who, contrary to my opinion, are subject to that tribe well known to your mind, and do not look to that friend of exalted designs; so also with the brothers of Meer Nusseer before-mentioned, (Hyderabad,) who, contrary to his wish, are mixed up with that tribe; except the open and usual correspondence let none be carried on with these.

Now, I depend on the kindness of that friend for considering this well-wisher his sincere friend, and obedient to his will: let the above be viewed as highly confidential: take also to your protection my Vizier with his sons, and consider him as a sharer in this Treaty, and this business by the Meean aforesaid, (Futteh Mahomed,) has been originally proposed and shall be carried out; the above will exert themselves to the utmost; consider them as your servants; they will be grateful for your communications. What more is required?

Case No. 2.

Inclosure 6 in No. 379.

Statement of Joonah, servant of Mahomed Shureef, given in the presence of Major Outram.*

DURING the time Mahomed Shureef was in confinement at Sukkur, some sheep, or goats, ("gosphund,") and a letter, were received by him from Futteh Mahomed Ghoree. This is the purport of the letter. "We are much grieved at your being confined, and will do all in our power to effect your release, so make your mind easy."

After this, a man of Futteh Mahomed's used to come and go every

* As to Mahomed Shureef, see letters from the Political Agent in Sinde, July 10, 14, and 16, and August 25.

two or three days, giving his master's compliments, and cheering Mahomed Shureef by kind words.

On the day that Major Outram went to Khyrpore, Mahomed Shureef wrote to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, reminding him of his promise to get him released. Futteh Mahomed wrote back that "the Major never would release him. All I could say to Sahib would be of no avail; he would not listen to me, but I am constantly considering how I could release you, and my exertions to this shall in no wise be lessened."

After this, Futteh Mahomed's people were continually coming and going, up to the time of Major Outram's departure for Shawl-kote, when a man of Futteh Mahomed's told Mahomed Shureef that he was to prepare for his flight. It was arranged that on the third day all was to be ready; when Mahomed Shureef went alone to the bank of the river, Noor Mahomed Khan*, with nine men and nine horses, were standing there ready to receive him. I followed the Syud: Jummo and Nuzzur Mahomed having collected the clothes, property, &c., also followed to the boat close to where the Syud was. On my reaching the Syud, I saw Noor Mahomed (brother of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree) with a puggree (turban) on; the nine men were with him, and he was talking to the Syud.

Noor Mahomed, on seeing us approach, asked who we were, lest we should inform against them; the Syud told him all was right with us; we were then all three (servants) sworn, and a letter was handed to the Syud from Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, to the address of Dost Ali, and Khurum Khan of Rojhan: the Syud was recommended to go by water in preference to travelling by land.

The Syud gave into my charge the letter for Dost Ali and Khurum Khan. As we were about to depart, Noor Mahomed gave the Syud some money for his expenses, and Gholam Mahomed Sindee was directed to accompany us, and to return with the news when all was arranged. The hire of the boat (forty rupees) having been paid by Noor Mahomed, we took our departure, the boatmen having been also sworn to secrecy by Noor Mahomed. These boatmen were Punjabees. On reaching Rojhan in the Sikh territory, we landed, and proceeding to the residence of Dost Ali and Khurum Khan, the Syud presented the letter he had received to their address.

On perusing this letter, Dost Ali and Khurum Khan gave the Syud a hearty welcome, assuring him that whilst he remained, their house was his, and their lives at his service. Here the Syud halted four days, and on taking leave, he was furnished by his hosts, with a mare and three Sowaree camels, and two Sowars were sent to escort us as far as the place of Beebruck Boogtie, from whence the three camels, lent by Dost Ali and Khurum Khan, were returned.

We stopped two days with Beebruck Boogtie, during which time the Syud told another person, whom he met there, that he wanted some horsemen and footmen; but what he was aiming at, was to have some conversation with Beebruck, but Beebruck would not have anything to say to him. The first day Beebruck gave food to Mahomed Shureef, but the second day he would not even give him that; and the Syud, when leaving, was obliged to hire a guide with his own money, and he likewise purchased a horse. After leaving Beebruck, we passed one day on the hills, and the second day reached Poolajee. The Syud purposed going to the house of Beejar Khan Doomkie, but we heard that a letter had been sent to that chief, by Mahomed Ameen (Naib of Bagh), offering a reward for Mahomed Shureef's apprehension, so we pushed on to near Dehi-Hajee, where we dismounted for a short time, and again mounting, proceeded to Dadur, and put up close to the village of Kaloce.

Mahomed Shureef sent in to Syud Churrack Shah for a riding camel, which Churrack Shah sent with some food for us. After leaving Kabee we came to Durrean Bolan Murree, with whom we passed one night, when the following conversation took place: "Let me have some horse and footmen," said the Syud; to which Durrean replied, "They are ready." The Syud then told the Durrean, that after going among the Affghans,

* Brother of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree.

and then arranging matters with them, he would send a letter to him (Durrean), bidding him to follow. Durrean agreed to all this. From Durrean we came to Johan, and from thence we proceeded towards Moostung, which place we did not enter, but remained at Sungan, from which place Mahomed Shureef addressed a letter to Mahomed Sadig, telling him that he was coming to join him. Whilst at Sungan, we heard that Saloo Khan had sent to seize the Syud; we then went to Spillungee, remaining a coss or two aloof, but a man was sent into the village by the Syud, after which three Sowars* came out with food for us, which they having partaken of with the Syud, was handed to me, whilst they carried on a conversation together. I heard nothing of what was said, for I was too far off. But from the circumstances of the Syud having eaten with the Sowars, I conclude they must have been men of proper rank. From Spillungee we came to Teree, and alighted in the garden, sending at the same time a man into the town, who brought out all the people to see the Syud, whose arrival caused some sensation.

After camels and horses had been prepared and brought out for the Syud, some of Mahomed Khan's people came and looked at Mahomed Shureef; this I myself saw; so without loss of time we went off to Killa Bostan, where an answer to the letter sent to Mahomed Sadig was received; the reply stated that Mahomed Sadig would join us in eight days; upon this, Mahomed Shureef summoned the Maliks (Kakurs), and explained to them, that he and Mahomed Sadig were one and the same. "I will give you food and pay," said the Syud, "if you will supply a "lushkur†." The Maliks all agreed to do so. Malik Kassim and Huzzar Khan, and Bostan, were all present, and agreed to have all their tribes in arms by the arrival of Mahomed Sadig, so as to proceed at once to plunder Shawl. Mahomed Shureef wrote another letter to Mahomed Sadig, but the answer had not been received. Mahomed Shureef was continually assuring the people around him, that he well knew the British mode of fighting, and that there was no fear of their being opposed by Ruheemdad, Naib, and the other people of Shawl: for when the Naib was a prisoner in Sukkur, he (Mahomed Shureef) effected his release, and Ruheemdad remembered it.

The day before yesterday, the Syud sent a letter to Teree (near Moostung) calling on Gholaum Mahomed, the servant of Noor Mahomed, to join him with Joonah and Nusseer Mahomed (two servants of Mahomed Shureef), and a slave girl; they were told to bring out the two Sowaree camels with them. The Syud said that he intended to give Noor Mahomed's man (Gholaum Mahomed), his "Rooksut," with a letter for his master at Khyrpore, reporting his safe arrival among the Affghans; and that having come to a friendly understanding with Mahomed Sadig, he was raising followers from the Affghans, who, together with the Kakurs and Murrees, were all in his interest. During Mahomed Shureef's stay at Killa Bostan, he used to say, that he required 2,500 men, and that the more Sowars he could get besides the better; and that he expected Mahomed Sadig to bring with him about 4,000 horse and foot; when these were all collected, the Syud said, that all should march from Killa Bostan, in the afternoon about 4 o'clock, remain a while in the hills, and then time their march, so as to come upon Shawl and plunder it before the daylight. Again, he used to say to Bostan's people, that the time to attack the British troops was about 11 A.M., for then all the troops are engaged in cooking, apart from their arms and clothes; a rush should then be made on the guns, after the capture of which, the fight could be no longer maintained by the British.

* One of these is supposed to have been Jan Mahomed, the chief of the Brahooee clan of Bungulzyes, whom we have ascertained to have since been in communication with Mahomed Sadig.

† An army.

Continuation of Joonah's Statement on examination before Major Outram, July 11, 1842.

Question. "You say that Mahomed Shureef wrote from Sungah to Mahomed Sadig. Now, do you know what he wrote?"

Answer. "When the people came out of the town to meet Mahomed Shureef, the latter told them, in my hearing, that he had written as follows to Mahomed Sadig:—'I have escaped from confinement, and have come at the instigation of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree (Minister of Khyrpore), on the part of Meer Roostum; let me hear if I shall come to you. I have heard much of your doings.' The answer to this was received by Mahomed Shureef, after our arrival at Killa Bostan. It desired the Syud to be of good cheer, and promised that he (Mahomed Sadig) would join him in eight days. I did not see the writing myself, but I saw the letter dispatched."

Question. "Cannot Mahomed Shureef write?"

Answer. "No, he always employs a moolla."

Question. "Who is the moolla?"

Answer. "When we were coming up from Phoolajie to Dadur, Mahomed Shureef dispatched his servant, Nuzzur Mahomed to call Moolla Wuzzeer from Bagh to him; the Moolla was formerly in Mahomed Shureef's service; he came and joined us at Kahee, and Mahomed Shureef took him up as far as Sungah, when the Moolla having discovered the Syud's errand, became alarmed, and returned to his home."

Question. "Where was Moolla Wuzzeer before this, and where is he now?"

Answer. "He formerly lived at Kahee, but he now lives at Bagh."

On the 12th of July, Mahomed Shureef having sent a message to his former servant, Jumoo, through Khanoo, to inquire after certain secret papers which were entrusted to the Hindoostanee*, Khanoo betrayed the message, on which Jumoo was taxed with having concealed the fact of such papers; and finding himself detected, he at once confessed that there was a packet of papers which Mahomed Shureef entrusted to the Hindoostanee on leaving Sukkur; that the packet was about ten inches long, thick, and wrapped up with cloth, and tied with string; that Mahomed Shureef often enjoined Hindoostanee to preserve the packet with care, and concealed, and that the Hindoostanee used to keep it tied to his waist.

This packet is supposed to contain treasonable letters, furnished to the Syud at Sukkur, and hoondees, or letters of credit, on parties at Candahar and Kelat, for the sums he might expend in the prosecution of his mission.

Inclosure 7 in No. 379.

Statement of Hajee, a Native of Teree, servant of Mahomed Shureef, taken before Major Outram, on the 10*th of July*, 1842.

ON the night of Mahomed Shureef's arrival at Teree, I joined him, being an old servant of his house; there was a great deal of excitement in consequence of his arrival; for this reason he did not enter the town, but the same night mounted and went to Killa Bostan. On his arrival there he called together the head men of the Kakur tribes, and told them to give him a "lushkur" (army).

Maliks Kassim, Bostan, and Huzzar Khan, were all together at Bostan's house with the Syud, consulting about the enlistment of 2,000 or 3,000 men, which the heads of tribes agreed to furnish.

Mahomed Shureef used to say that he would plunder Shawl Kote (Quetta) on the arrival of Mahomed Sadig. When Mahomed Sadig passed

* The Khyrpore man.

on from Bostan's Fort (*en route* to Shorawuck), he agreed to bring back a lushkur in ten days, and two days after this Mahomed Shureef reached Killa Bostan.

The plan was to march half way to Shawl the first night, from thence to send on spies for intelligence, and after that to rush on Quetta.

Malik Kassim and Huzzar had agreed to assemble all their followers at Bostan's Fort, from which place they were to march on Shawl; but I did not hear where Mahomed Sadig was to join with his lushkur.

When Mahomed Shureef arrived at Teree, he had with him four men, Joonah, Nuzzur, Mahomed Jummoo, and a person of Hindoostan*, unknown to me; but the Syud told the last-mentioned individual that he was to remain at Teree till he gave him his "rooksut;" but the Syud afterwards wrote from Bostan's Fort, telling this stranger to bring the other people with him to Killa Bostan.

Inclosure 8 in No. 379.

Statement made by Noor Mahomed Khan respecting the affairs of Syud Mahomed Shureef, July 17, 1842.

I WENT to Teree by order of the Assistant Political Agent, at which place there are several people of my tribe (Khysanees) residing.

A woman of my acquaintance, and wife of a man of my tribe, went frequently to both Mahomed Shureef's and Meer Oollah's houses. It was from her I learned that Meer Oollah had fled to the village of Kurranee; she also stated that Meer Oollah had carefully tied some papers round his waist; the papers were said to be given him by Mahomed Shureef; I also heard that the Syud had given some money (how much I do not know) to his family.

It is also said that Syud Mahomed Shureef gave 500 rupees to Bostan at Killa Bostan, the place where he was arrested by Major Outram; Mahomed Shureef also presented Jan Mahomed Bungulzye with 100 rupees at Spillinjee.

Naib Mahomed Hoossein states, that it has been reported to him by several Bungulzyes, that Jan Mahomed engaged to furnish to Mahomed Shureef, at any time at which the Syud might require them, as many men, either of his own or the neighbouring tribes, as he could raise; but Mahomed Shureef was afraid to remain long at Spillinjee, on account of Sirdar Adam Khan, between whom and Jan Mahomed there exists enmity. The Naib says that none of the Brahooees like to appear before an English officer to state things, for fear their names should be exposed; they are still more unwilling when they observe any one writing down their words.

Inclosure 9 in No. 379.

Memorandum of a conversation held at an interview between Captain Pontardent, Assistant Political Agent, and Syud Moobarick Shah, Chief of Kurranee.

Quetta, July 25, 1842.

AFTER a little conversation on different subjects, I asked the Syud if he had understood the purport of the message I had sent him by Noor Mahomed Khan; he replied that he had, but that he conceived it most probable that I had on many points been misled by false information; and that he thought it but consistent with common justice, that, if any one accused Mahomed Shureef of intrigues favourable to our or the Khan's enemies, the accuser and the accused should be confronted and brought face to face together; and that he thought it would be more

* This was the Sindee servant of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree. All men below the passes are called Hindoostanees by the up-country people.

becoming in the English Sirkar to recollect the great services performed for them in the past year by Syud Mahomed Shureef, than to punish him for the natural wish to escape from imprisonment.

I answered to this, that the conduct of the prisoner Syud Mahomed Shureef, whilst in power in Cutchee, was well known to every one, as also the manner in which he had treated every one by whom he had been confided in, both his late master, Mehrab Khan, and the English Government, as well as the oppression and exactions enforced by him from the cultivators and poor people in Cutchee; but laying all this aside, the Burra Sahib has positive proof of Syud Mahomed Shureef having brought up treasonable letters and hoondees for money from Sinde; and also, every one knows that, on his arrival, he went and joined a set of men who are at open war with the Khan and the English Government; therefore the slightest punishment that Mahomed Shureef can expect from the English Government will be imprisonment for life in India, and from the Khan, confiscation of his lands and estates. "The question is, whether you, as his relative, will do anything to obviate this or not."

Moobarick Shah.—"Where and with whom do you suppose the papers alluded to by you are?"

Captain P.—"At Kurranee and in your hands." The Syud then remarked, that he would recommend my personally seeking Meer Oollah, and also Mahomed Shureef.

The Syud.—"Am I to understand that, if letters of instructions from any of the Sinde Ameers, and hoondees given by their order to Mahomed Shureef, are given up to you, Mahomed Shureef will be released, and his lands guaranteed to him?"

Answer.—"The giving up the papers is the only chance; and I think it most probable that, after I have spoken to Major Outram and the Khan, I shall be able to promise to that effect."

Inclosure 10 in No. 379.

Examination of Abba Bier, August 15, 1842.

ABBA BIER* (a Patan), belonging to the village of Kassim-ke-gote examined in the presence of the Naib of Quetta, states, "That about six days ago, four men were sent from my village by Kassim Khan to Quetta, for the purpose of releasing Syud Mahomed Shureef, if possible. They twice examined the premises about Major Outram's bungalow, and returned to our village, and reported that the place was too secure, and too well guarded to attempt a rescue, and that their original intention of undermining the wall was not practicable."

Abba Bier, on being questioned about Mahomed Shureef's proceedings whilst at Bostan's Fort, in the vicinity of his (Abba Bier's) village, says, "That the Syud gave money to both Bostan and Kassim, but that he is not sure of the amount; it is reported that the sum given was 500 rupees to Bostan and 200 to Kassim. It was told to us that there would be a great party formed against the English, and that they would be driven out of this country, and that there would be a great deal of plunder. Mahomed Shureef said that a number of Brahooees would join the Patans under Mahomed Sadig. I do not recollect any more."

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* Seized on suspicion of concern in an attempt to release Mahomed Shureef.

Case No. 3.

Inclosure 11 in No. 379.

Lieutenant Brown to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 5, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to forward copies of a letter of the 29th ultimo, I received from Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, commanding at Sukkur, and of translations of a letter I addressed to his Highness Meer Nusseer Khan, and his reply thereto, relative to the maltreatment of a British subject by the Ameer's vakeel.

On hearing of the case, I caused the individual, who had been placed in the stocks, to be released; and I was in hopes that the Ameer would have punished his servant for this unfriendly act; but, by the reply I received, you will perceive how little his Highness has done to prevent the recurrence of such an outrage.

I have, &c.,
E. J. BROWN.

P.S.—I may add, that I took especial care to discover if the Ameer punished his servant for thus maltreating Major Clibborn's servant, and found that he did not do so.

Inclosure 12 in No. 379.

Major Clibborn, commanding 1*st Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry, to Captain Strather, Staff Officer, Sukkur.*

Sir, *Camp, Sukkur, September* 28, 1842

I BEG you will bring to the notice of the Commanding Officer that Bhadoor Ali Shah, a vakeel of Meer Nusseer Khan, has seized, stripped, maltreated, and confined in Sukkur, a servant of mine, namely, Timour Mull, who has been in the employ of myself or my regiment for two years past.

I feel anxious that this man (who has steadily refused service with the Ameers on several occasions) may be released from the hands of the above person as soon as possible, either by order from the Colonel or the Political Department, as Bhadoor Ali Shah is sending him off, bound to Khyrpore, and there is no knowing what treatment he may receive there, if such is permitted.

I have, &c.,
T. CLIBBORN.

Inclosure 13 in No. 379.

Statement of Timour Mull, in the service of Major Clibborn.

September 28, 1842.

A FEW days ago, Bhadoor Ali Shah was sitting in his house and abusing me, saying, that if Major Clibborn gave me his protection, he would make me understand (hear of it). I reported this to the Major, who replied, that if Bhadoor Ali does anything to you, you will immediately inform me of it. To-day Bhadoor Ali returned from Kippou, and I went at 8 o'clock to make my salaam to Major Clibborn. As soon as I came back, Bhadoor Ali sent me a message to say that I was a great blackguard, acting as an informer to Major Clibborn, and thereby injuring the Ameers; that upon my representation, Captain Pope had caused all the grog-shops in the city to be closed. For this reason he would

seize me, put ropes on my feet, and disgrace me. This messenger also reported that Bhadoor Ali had abused Major Clibborn, Captain Pope, and the Sirkar Ungreez, and that the English army was returning from Cutchee without having gained their object, and that now we should be able to see what their strength was like; that Bhadoor Ali had said that he would go to Captain Brown's bungalow, and obtain permission to put ropes on my legs, and turn me out of the town. The messenger's name was Pakno Mull; and I reported all he said to Major Clibborn, who told me to sit quiet in my house, and if Bhadoor Ali said anything to me, or did as he threatened, to tell him of the same. I therefore went to my house, eat, and slept, when a man of Bhadoor Ali came inside, and three remained outside; the former person said, "Bhadoor Ali has sent for you." I said, "I am not in his service, but in that of the Sirkar Ungreez." He replied, "If you don't wish to go by fair means, I must take you by force." I added. "Very well." He then laid hold of me by the hand; I had not time even to dress, and he took me off with him. When we arrived near the house of the Kardar, a servant of Bhadoor Ali met us and said, "Come here." I replied, "I am going to see Bhadoor Ali Shah." He replied, "Come into the quarters of the Sirkar;" and, having taken me there, they placed me in the stocks, where I remained until Moonshee Mooideen came and took me along with him. After I was placed in the stocks, an hour may have elapsed, when Mihi Ali Shah, Fakeer Ali, and Mahomed Shah, came to me, and said that they would release me. I said I would not be released; that my master would effect that. They said, "You have been confined for abusing Bhadoor Ali and the Meer Sahib" (Meer Nusseer). Mahomed Shah said, "I will punish you, and send you to Khyrpore." I replied, "Be silent; I do not know who you are; whether you may be a boatman, or any other person. My business is with the Ameers, or Bhadoor Ali Shah." Afterwards Fakeer Ali and others took me out of the stocks. At the time I was taken off to be placed in confinement, they put mud upon my door (viz.:—shut up the house), to show that I had come under the displeasure of the Sirkar, and turned out all my people. I was in confinement when Talladad, a servant of the Kardar, said, "Open Timour Mull's house." I said, "Do not so." I therefore cannot say whether the house was opened or not. I sent in a petition to Major Clibborn, to say they wanted to send me to Khyrpore. The Major said, "It is of no consequence. I will write to Captain Brown about it."

Question. Syud Bhadoor Ali says, that there is a balance of 1,500 rupees due by you to the Sirkar Meer Nusseer Khan. How is this?

Answer. This is entirely a false accusation. Where have the Meer and his people been for the last three years, at the time Meer Nusseer Khan sent for me to Khyrpore, and wished me to enter his service, which I declined? Why did he not demand this money from me then?

Question. Syud Bhadoor Ali Shah says that you abused the Ameer, and that you would plunder the Ameer's territories.

Answer. I never said this before any one, nor did I abuse the Ameer.

Question. Have you any witness to prove that the people of Bhadoor Ali Shah placed you in confinement?

Answer. Yes; Andul, a Mussulman, and Pakur, a Hindoo; also Moulena, a carpenter, who put my feet in the stocks.

Moohydeen Moonshee states:—I went at 6 o'clock in the evening, by order of Captain Brown, to bring Timour Mull. He was in confinement in the quarters of the Kardar, but his feet were not in the stocks. I released him, and brought him with me.

Inclosure 14 in No. 379.

Lieutenant Brown to Meer Nusseer Khan.

Sukkur, September 28, 1842.

IT has just happened that a servant of the Government, by name Timour Mull, and a respectable person, has been confined by some of your officers in the town of Sukkur, placed in the stocks, and disgraced in various ways; and all this has been done on false accusations, got up for the occasion. This strange sort of conduct cannot be overlooked, and I have written to my friend previously the way in which his officers have frequently disobeyed his orders. I know that upon hearing this fresh act of violence, my friend will be very much displeased. The excuses that have been made by Syud Bhadoor Ali Shah for the conduct I have just described are without meaning, and not worthy of being listened to for a moment. Had there been any truth in them, he ought to have informed me of the particulars. This is not the first time that such things have taken place; it is therefore necessary that my friend should punish the person who has caused Timour Mull to be thus disgraced, and to make the same known, that all may know that such is the consequence of similar practices; and I hope that my friend will punish him quickly, so that it may not be necessary, on the arrival of General Napier, to bring this case first to his notice.

Inclosure 15 in No. 379.

Meer Nusseer Khan to Lieutenant Brown.

I WAS much pleased at the receipt of your letter, and I have become acquainted with the particulars of this case of Timour Hindoo. My kind friend, Timour Hindoo is an old servant of mine; and as he had charge of the accounts, Syud Bhadoor Ali Shah was talking to him about them, and rendering his accounts; the following day the Syud sent some ignorant fellow to call the Hindoo, who laid hold of him and brought him to the Cutcherry. I was much displeased upon hearing this. I entertain particular friendship for the British. I am certain that nothing of the kind will again occur.

Case No. 4.

Inclosures 16, 17, and 18, in No. 379.

ON the 9th of September, 1842, Peer Ibrahim, native agent at Bhawulpore, writes to Captain Brown, in charge at Sukkur, that the Kardar of Bhoong Bhara belonging to Meer Roostum Khan, had placed men at the ghaut, to stop all boats and exact duty.

(Vide Translation No. 1.)

On the 9th of October, 1842, Peer Ibrahim writes to Captain Brown, to say that nine boats on their way to Ferozepore were stopped at Bhoong Bhara, by Meer Roostum's people, notwithstanding they had paid eight rupees each, as toll, before leaving Sukkur.

(Vide Translation No. 2.)

On the 15th October, 1842, a person by name Emambux, represents to Captain Brown, that on his way down the river with the boats laden with merchandize, he was stopped at Bhoong Bhara, in the territory of

Meer Roostum Khan, by the contractor (Ijaredar) named Sawul, who exacted from him thirteen maunds of sugar, and three rupees in cash, by way of duty.

(Vide Petition, No. 3.)

Inclosure 16 in No. 379.

No. 1.—*Peer Ibrahim, Native Agent at Bhawulpore, to Lieutenant Brown.*

September 9, 1842.

YOUR servant on the 27th of July last, forwarded to you a petition inclosing a statement from Ghote Mull Sowcar, an inhabitant of Khoupore in the territory of Bhawulpore, setting forth that the Kardar of Subzulkote had taken fifty rupees' worth of ghee out of a boat of his *en route* to Sukkur. Yesterday, 8th of September, Khoobchund Phokundoss, Nunda Mull, Gyan Chund, and other Sowcars of Bhawulpore, who have their agents in Sukkur, and who have always been in the habit of sending boats laden with merchandize and grain, *viâ* the Indus to Sukkur, came in a body, and represented to me that they were ambitious of sending boats laden with merchandize down the river, under the auspices of the Sirkar, but formerly they had no inclination to do so, and were inclined to adhere to this latter resolve, because the Kardar of Bhoong Bhara (opposite Subzulkote), in the territory of Meer Roostum Khan, and the Kardar of Subzulkote (in the possession of Meer Roostum Khan and other Ameers), have posted their armed Sepoys at Bhoong Bhara, for the purpose of taking duty on every boat, and blockading up the passage of the river; and these men without any dread, or fear of the consequences, levy tolls on boats passing, whether full or empty, taking whatever amount they please. The Sowcars above mentioned stated that they received a letter from Lalla Hirchund at Mitten Kote, who states that two of his boats returning empty from Sukkur, were stopped by the armed Sepoys aforesaid, and 100 rupees taken by force from the people in charge of them; several boats laden with grain, belonging to the Lalla at Mitten, and several belonging to ourselves, laden with grain and other property, were all ready for dispatch at Mitten Kote; but on hearing the reports already mentioned we caused them to remain, which will thereby cause us much injury. The parties named requested that I would take steps to remedy this state of affairs. I had not as yet given a reply to the Sowcars, when I received a letter from Lalla Hirchund at Mitten Kote, confirming all the Sowcars had previously stated to me. Prior to this, I sent many petitions to Sukkur relative to the stoppage of boats coming and going, by the armed sepoys at Bhoong Bhara, and am still in expectation of orders from the Hoozoor. I cannot understand how the Kardars of Bhoong Bhara can act contrary to the Treaty between the two Sirkars, viz., the British Government and the Ameers of Sinde, thereby causing hesitation and indecision to the merchants, when it is apparent that it is the wish of the British Government to keep open the navigation of the Indus, and that they are making every exertion to do so. Under these circumstances, I venture to hope that you will write to the Kardars of the Ameers to refund the money which they have taken, and in future not to offer any hindrance to boats in passing. Whatever orders you may please to issue, I will communicate to the Sowcars. I have thought proper to communicate the contents of this letter to Mr. Clerk, Agent to the Governor-General, and to Mr. Grant.

Inclosure 17 in No. 379.

No. 2.—*Peer Ibrahim to Lieutenant Brown.*

October 9, 1842.

I HAVE received your two perwannas, one dated the 4th of October, 1842, requesting to be informed whether or not Jeyt Mull has sent any orders to his deputy at Subzulkote, forbidding him to stop boats; and if he had directed him to return certain sums of money exacted as tolls from several boats, to make inquiry on these points.

The second perwanna, dated 5th October, 1842, also came to hand, directing to be informed whether there was any truth in the report that Meer Nusseer Khan's people had fired at some boats. I have accordingly sent a man to Bhoong Bhara and the Ghaut Bhotta, to make every inquiry. I sent for the Sowcars, and they represent that their boats are still detained, not having received advice from their agents of their having reached Sukkur; had Jeyt Mull sent any orders for their release, no doubt they would have reached their destination; they say they had received a letter from Kalla Chuprassee, stationed at Chackur, who reported that the boats were still detained. Bukshum and Kurreem, boatmen, lately arrived from Sukkur, also state that nine boats were detained at Bhoong Bhara on their way to Ferozepore, although they had paid eight rupees per boat to Meer Roostum's people before leaving Sukkur; and that thirty-one boats on their way down the river were detained at Bhoong Bhara and Bhotta, in the territory of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and the Kardar had demanded forty rupees on each boat.

I asked Pokundoss to give me the particulars of his boats being fired at; and he gave me the letter he had received from his servant (original), and a copy of the perwanna of Meer Nusseer Khan, which I send, and said that he would obtain further particulars.

Inclosure 18 in No. 379.

No. 3.—*Petition from Emambux to Lieutenant Brown.*

Sukkur, October 15, 1842.

YOUR servant was on his way down the river with sundry boats laden with merchandize, the contractor at Bhoong Bhara, by name Sawul, in the territory of Meer Roostum Khan, seized thirteen maunds of moist sugar, and took also by force three rupees in cash, by way of toll, although I told him that no duty had hitherto been paid, and produced a copy of your perwanna to Peer Ibrahim on the subject; he paid no attention to it, but remarked it was possibly a forgery. I therefore make my petition to you, in hope that you will cause to be given back to me, the sugar and cash.

Case No. 5.

Inclosure 19 in No. 379.

Petition of Gungadhur, resident of Sudder Bazaar, Sukkur, to Captain Pope, Assistant Commissary-General and Superintendent of Bazaars, Sukkur.

Humbly Sheweth, *August* 22, 1842.

THAT Nundram Marwaree, now resident of Roree, had mercantile dealings with Nurbaram Sowcar, inhabitant of Baroda, which transaction ceased nearly three years ago, and a balance of rupees 17 2*a.* 3*p.* became due by the latter, which was not accepted by the former, although offered

more than often; that on the 21st instant the said Nurbaram had left this for his native country in a boat, and having arrived about thirty coss below Sukkur, was seized upon by the people of Meer Roostum, owing to a complaint made to his Highness by the said Nundram, founded on malice, and a design of distressing Nurbaram, who, being a British subject, and amenable to the British law alone, your petitioner being his agent, resident in the Sudder Bazaar, has, in consequence, presumed to report the above circumstances, not doubting that your honor will deign to exercise your authority in liberating the said Nurbaram from the hands of his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, and to inquire into the cause that led to such a scene of impropriety on the part of his opponent, for which act of charity and justice your petitioner shall, as in duty bound, ever pray.

Inclosure 20 in No. 379.

Lieutenant Brown to Meer Roostum Khan.

Sukkur, August 23, 1842.

I UNDERSTAND from a petition from a man named Gungadhur, a Gomashta of Seth Nurbaram, and British subject, that the Seth was on his way home *viâ* the Indus, and when he had got thirty coss from Sukkur, the sepoys of my friend stopped him on a complaint of Nundram Marwaree about some outstanding accounts (of whose conduct I am fully apprised,) and will not allow him to proceed on his journey. Although the Seth has had no dealings with Nundram for some years, a message was frequently sent to the latter by the Seth to come and receive a small balance of 17 rupees 2 annas and 3 pice, but he never made his appearance. I am certain that the Seth (a subject of the British Government) being stopped in this manner, and for such a slight cause, on the *ipse dixit* of such a mischief-maker, could not be by your order. I therefore hope you will forbid your sepoys stopping the Seth, and enjoin them in future not to act in this manner towards British subjects, otherwise they will be subjected to severe punishment.

Inclosure 21 in No. 379.

Petition of Gungadhur to Captain Pope.

Humbly Sheweth, *Sukkur, August* 25, 1842.

THAT your petitioner, with deep regret, begs again to intrude upon your valuable time by laying before you the undermentioned circumstances which were conveyed to him by a letter just received from Khyrpore, written by Chagundoss, mentioned in a former petition dated the 22nd of August current, not doubting but you will be pleased to take into your serious consideration the impropriety of the steps followed by his Highness Meer Roostum of Khyrpore, and afford the men at present in custody, the protection and justice due to their distressed case.

That while Nurbaram and others of his household were proceeding down the river (having left this on the 20th morning instant) they were seized and taken prisoners from about sixty miles down the Indus to the seat of the Ameer (Khyrpore), where, ever since, Chagundoss and Narrain Baraman have been kept as convicts, being forbidden of all comforts of life, and even of conversing with each other, as well as of writing. That the plea given by Yar Mahomed (son of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree) is, that the said Nurbaram had defrauded his Highness of many lacs of rupees on account of fees, while the said Nurbaram had the supplying of grain and other stores to the Commissariat Department; this assertion is utterly groundless, for never was a pound of grain passed without a perwannah from the late Political Agent, or Captain Bate. Another reason is stated as having led to their apprehension, and that is, that the said Nurberam

is indebted to a man named Nundram, who, it is said, has made a complaint to that effect; this is also groundless, for the said Nundram had plainly refused to accept of the balance that became due to him (viz., rupees 17 2*a*. 3*p*.) on account of a transaction existing between him and the said Nurbaram, and which transaction ceased now nearly three years since; and had even such a claim existed, the said Numdram should have recovered it through the medium of the then Bazaar Master, who, having had occasion, transported the said Nundram from the Sudder Bazaar for some misdeed, as his Highness has done, which is diametrically opposed to all practices, and infringing upon the authority vested alone in British authorities for punishing British subjects when necessary; that the said Yar Mahomed receives daily a rupee from Chagundoss, one of the two imprisoned, and should such disbursement be delayed a little later than the other, heaps abusive language on them; this circumstance would justify your petitioner in expressing his firm belief, that nothing but a desire of extortion has set on foot this mischief, because the said Yar Mahomed had signified to the men imprisoned, that their paying to him a thousand rupees would be the only means of liberating them from any further responsibility. Consequently, and under the impression that the British law protects the British subjects, your petitioner has made himself bold to approach before you with sanguine hopes of being redressed.

Iuclosure 22 in No. 379.

Lieutenant Brown to Meer Roostum Khan.

Sukkur, August 26, 1842.

IT is now four days since I wrote to you regarding the case of Nurbaram Seth, a subject of the Sirkar Ungreez, who wished to return to his home; the kardars of my friend stopped him on the road. As I have not yet received a reply, I conclude that my letter did not reach you, and that the Seth was stopped by your kardars without any authority; and I understand, moreover, that these kardars have confined two gomashtas of the Seth who were accompanying him. As it is very improper for your kardars to keep in confinement subjects of the British Government, therefore I write to you according to the friendship existing between the two Sirkars, to beg that you will, immediately on the receipt of my letter, be good enough to order the release of these persons, and send them to me, and write me whatever claim there may be against them that I may inquire into the same, and, in future, to enjoin your kardars to give me previous information of any claim they may have to bring against any British subject, and to be careful how they confine them. I send this letter, along with one of the Sukkur Agency Chuprassies, so that in this way it will be certain of reaching you, and believe me that I shall always be most happy to hear from you.

Inclosure 23 in No. 379.

Meer Roostum Khan to Lieutenant Brown.—(Received August 31, 1842.)

I WAS much pleased at the receipt of your two letters, informing me that Seth Nurbaram, a subject of the Sirkar Ungreez, was proceeding to his country and that my kardars had stopped him on the road and brought two of his gomashtas to Khyrpore and kept them there. Nundram (Babra), who had a claim against the Seth, made a complaint to my friend, of the Seth's being placed in confinement, as well as his two gomashtas. My friend, you are well aware that in the Treaty existing between the British Government and this Sirkar, the toll on merchandize is not levied upon British subjects, or their dependents, in transit upon

the Indus, and that I am entitled to levy toll upon merchandize passing inland. My kardars represented that the Seth was in the habit of bringing his goods by land, and never paying any duty on them. To inquire into this matter, I sent for his gomashtas. As unanimity exists between the two Governments, I send Mahomed Toonia to you, and if it appears that the Seth (Nurbaram) has not paid the requisite duty upon his goods, I trust that you will exact the sum from him and send me the amount, but, should it not be proved, I have no wish to impose upon him an unjust tax.

Correspondence marked A, mentioned in Major Outram's Letter of October 14, 1842.

Inclosure 24 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, May* 11, 1840.

THE representations of Meer Shere Mahomed, alluded to in my diary of the 4th instant, regarding subjects of Sinde evading his dues, oblige me to solicit the instructions of the Governor-General of India in Council, as to how far that chief is to be restricted by the provisions of the new Treaty with the four Ameers of Hyderabad, of Fourteen Articles, to which he is not a party, although, as a subject or member of the former General Government of Sinde, he was, I presume, bound by the former Commercial Treaties of 1832 and 1834, that chief's separation and independence from the others, being now virtually admitted, by my predecessor having tendered a separate Treaty to him, at the same time as to the other Ameers.

2. The former Treaties, by which the Meerpore Chief considers himself bound, relate only to foreign merchants, the British Government having requested a passage for the merchants and traders of Hindoostan by the roads and rivers of Sinde, by which they may transport their merchandize from one conntry to another; and Meer Shere Mahomed states that he scrupulously abstains from interfering with foreign merchants, but that he never agreed to exempt Sinde merchants from what they have already been accustomed to pay, and which, in fact, is the principal source of his revenue.

3. Within the last few days, Jeyt Anund, my native agent, has made known to me, that the Ameers of Hyderabad also consider that the same right they have always heretofore exercised, still continues to them, of levying duties from their own subjects transporting merchandize by the Indus. He says that the Ameers have always understood that Articles XI and XII of the new Treaty, merely confirmed the former Commercial Treaty, which applied to foreign merchants alone, and they never understood the new Treaty to interfere in any way with the transit duties they have always been accustomed to exact from their own subjects, and that, besides, they read Artiele XI as only applying to merchants entering the river from the sea, or from beyond their own territory to the northward.

4. I might have been deceived by this, seeing that the same right over their own subjects is exercised by the Khyrpore and Bhawulpore chiefs, and believing that it could not have been the intention of the Governor-General to enforce harsher terms on the Hyderabad Government, or at least on Meer Sobdar, who suffers equally with the other Ameers by the measure in question, than what are exacted from the abovementioned States, similarly situated in their relation to the British Government, had I not found that the late Resident took a very different view of the question, and peremptorily directed through Lieutenant Eastwick (by private letter of instructions, dated 29th of November last), "that no custom duties or fines are to be levied on any goods (no matter

who the owners are) going or coming by the Indus," which that gentleman must have communicated through the Native Agent, he being then too unwell to visit the Durbar personally.

5. On my questioning the Native Agent as to the practice that prevailed, and what messages he had delivered to their Highnesses, relating to the exaction of duties from their own subjects, he informed me that the Ameers have continued to levy them, as heretofore, although advised by him that it would ultimately tend to their own advantage to abolish them altogether. This he told me he had been instructed to do, but he purposely concealed from me, that, besides the orders of the late Resident to Lieutenant Eastwick, above alluded to, which I assume to have been, of course, communicated to Jeyt Anund, he had received repeated and positive orders from Colonel Pottinger direct, to prohibit the levying of any duties from any person, and on any property whatever, in boats passing up and down the Indus, which I have ascertained to be the case. On examining the native records, I have been since led to suspect the integrity of the Native Agent.

6. It is evident that the Native Agent endeavoured to deceive me, to benefit the Ameers, or he has deceived their Highnesses, by omitting to deliver Colonel Pottinger's prohibition to levy duties from their own subjects, which they have continued to do uninterruptedly; the former is most probably the case, as most likely to secure advantages to himself, but, in either case, it shows that he is no longer to be depended upon, and the probability that my predecessor's suspicions (which Colonel Pottinger communicated to me), that Jeyt Anund has been tampered with, and gained over to Meer Noor Mahomed's interests, are well grounded; under such circumstances, I can no longer place confidence in this person, or employ him as a medium of intercourse with their Highnesses. I shall consider it my duty, therefore, to suspend Jeyt Anund from his office of Native Agent, pending his Lordship's instructions, after having confronted him with the Ameers, which I shall have an opportunity of doing on joining their Highnesses at a hunting party on the 13th instant.

7. It is with much diffidence, but from an imperative sense of duty that I now beg most respectfully and submissively to offer my opinion on the subject in question. It appears to me very possible, that the Ameers may have understood the 11th and 12th Articles of the new Treaty to be merely confirmatory of the former Commercial Treaties, and that they really never did contemplate that those Articles had any reference to subjects of Sinde, especially as the 5th Article provides for "the absolute rule" of the Ameers over their own subjects; otherwise, I do not think it possible they would have omitted to protest against such an arrangement, which deprives them of their principal source of revenue, besides in a great measure undermining their authority over their own subjects, when they so pertinaciously persisted in protesting against other, and to them, far less important, provisions of the new Treaty; and, as far as I can ascertain, either from the Native Agent, or from Petamber, the Residency Moonshee, through whom or in whose presence all Colonel Pottinger's discussions were carried on, it does not appear that this question was ever mooted even, as if it was never suspected by the Hyderabad Government, that such could be the intention of those clauses of the Treaty.

8. Were commerce on the Indus likely to be much affected or injured by the same unrestricted control of the Ameers over their subjects, which the other States on the Indus maintain, I should be loath to concede this point; but I believe it would not prove detrimental in the slightest degree, and that, on the contrary, it would, by throwing the whole commerce into the hands of foreign merchants, be the means of encouraging them and enticing them into this channel, which is the great object to effect in the first instance; afterwards, the evil would correct itself, as the Sinde Government could not long remain blind to the loss of revenue, which soon must become apparent from excluding its own people from participating in the benefits of trade, which such exactions must effectually do.

9. The chief objection to the exercise by the Ameers of the power of taxing their own boats, appears to me, that pointed out in the 7th

paragraph of my letter to your address dated the 5th of March last, that is, the practice I understand to prevail, of taxing empty boats, after discharging the cargoes of foreign merchants, but this I find could be easily guarded against, and pledges to abstain from the practice might be exacted from the Ameers, as the price of the concession, which I beg most respectfully to recommend as just and politic,—just, as it would place them on a footing with those in Upper Sinde, and other States on the Indus similarly situated; and politic, because the interference between the Ameers and their subjects, which I deprecate, must at all times be a source of heart-burning to them, especially as they see other, and in their opinion inferior, States in their immediate neighbourhood, exempted from such interference; because, it must appear to them an immediate and very serious pecuniary sacrifice, for which they cannot be made to comprehend the possibility of any prospective compensation; because Meer Sobdar Khan, whom it is the great object of the British Government to benefit by its protection, will consider himself injured, on the contrary, and an equal sufferer with the rest; and because his ally Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, whom it is an object to conciliate, must be compelled to the same relinquishment of his dues from subjects of Sinde, as the Ameers of Hyderabad have literally bound themselves to, should the Governor-General so understand the spirit of the new Treaty, and direct its enforcement accordingly, which I am convinced would cause extreme discontent, much bickering and frequent disturbances, more than counterbalancing any advantages that would accrue from granting the freedom of the river to subjects of Sinde.

10. In conclusion, and in support of these views, which I consider myself bound in duty to submit for the judgment of the Governor-General of India in Council, I may be permitted to quote the words of the enlightened statesman Franklin :—"To me it seems that neither the obtaining nor retaining of any trade, however valuable, is an object for which men may justly spill each other's blood; that the true and sure means of extending commerce is the goodness and cheapness of commodities, and that the profit of no trade can be equal to the expense of compelling it and holding it by fleets and armies."

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

P.S.—I beg leave to hand up on this occasion, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, copies of recent correspondence with the Political Agent in Cutch, displaying a system of illiberality towards commerce in what are here considered British ports, which cannot fail to be contrasted by the Ameers with the very liberal concessions in favour of commerce required from themselves by the British Government.

Inclosure 25 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Hyderabad, May* 22, 1840.

I HAVE now the honor to report, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, the substance of my conference with Meers Mahomed and Nusseer Khan on board their Highness's state barge on the 17th instant, alluded to in my diary of that date.

2. On my presenting his Lordship's letter to the Ameers, transmitted with yours dated 13th ultimo, I intimated my wish to converse with their Highnesses for a few moments, if not inconvenient, to which they most readily assented, and requested me to retire with them to the rear cabin that we might be more private, and allowing none to accompany us except Meer Shahdad. I desired, however, that the Native Agent, Jeth Anund, might be admitted, and he was called in accordingly.

3. I commenced by informing their Highnesses that, notwithstand-

ing their agreement by Treaty to exact no duties whatever upon boats or goods, passing up or down the Indus, I was well aware that they had continued to do so as heretofore ever since the Treaty was signed. Meer Noor Mahomed, who acted as spokesman throughout, was, or pretended to be, surprised at this accusation, declaring that he had scrupulously adhered to the terms of the Treaty in permitting all foreign goods belonging to foreign merchants to pass free, whether entering the river from above or below.

Political Agent. "Yes, but the Treaty pledges you to exact no tolls whatever from any one passing up or down the river, but your officers do so to this day from all natives of Sinde carrying the produce of Sinde."

Ameer. "Certainly, it was never agreed that any alteration should take place regarding our own subjects; on the contrary, the Treaty stipulates that we shall exercise absolute control over our own people."

Political Agent. "Article II of the Treaty specifies that no toll will be levied on trading boats passing up or down the river, without any exemption being specified to natives of Sinde, which would have been, had such been intended."

Ameer. "The present Treaty merely confirms the former Commercial Treaties. The new Treaty was not caused by those matters calling for a change; on the contrary, not one word was ever said by Colonel Pottinger regarding any alterations being required in the river arrangement: and we certainly never understood that there were to be any alterations; if so, we certainly should have complained against what would deprive us of all our revenues: for if our own people are allowed to carry goods up or down the river without payment, what will become of our land duties on camels or donkeys carrying merchandize, for they will never be used in that case, and we should be great sufferers."

Political Agent. "The benefit will soon be seen of opening the river to your own people as well as to foreigners, otherwise the former will be shut out from the benefit of the trade altogether, for they will be undersold by foreign merchants landing goods and paying the customary tolls which would still be much cheaper than what the Sindian merchant could afford to sell at, who is subjected to land transit-duties besides."

Ameer. "That may be, but in the mean time, how are we to live? We derive no advantage from foreign commerce, and if what we always got from our own subjects is taken away, how can we exist, for the taxes on Sinde boats and produce is all our revenue."

Political Agent. "At first there might be apparent loss, but ultimate benefit will be great and certain."

4. This their Highnesses did not appear at all to believe. Turning to Jeth Anund, I asked him how he understood the Treaty with regard to this point? He answered most readily, "as applying only to foreign merchants and property coming in from the sea or down from above."

Political Agent. "How was it in that case that Colonel Pottinger called upon you to recover, and you did so, the duties which had been levied on indigo by Shere Mahomed some time ago?"

Native Agent. "That was Mooltan indigo, and therefore foreign?"

Political Agent. "Have the Ameers always continued to levy duties from Sinde people, as heretofore?"

Native Agent. "No Sinde cargoes of any value are brought down the river; they generally go by land."

Political Agent. "But if they can come free by the river, why should they go by land?"

Native Agent. "They have not been allowed to come free."

Political Agent. "Who has prevented them?"

Native Agent. "I suppose the Ameers."

Political Agent. "Did you ever report this to Colonel Pottinger?"

Native Agent. "There was no occasion."

Political Agent. "Are Sinde boats always taxed in the same manner as heretofore?"

Native Agent. "There has been no alteration regarding the Sinde people."

Political Agent. "Did you never convey any positive prohibition from Colonel Pottinger to the Ameers against their taxing any boats whatever?"

Native Agent. "I advised them that it would be ultimately for their benefit to make the river free to their own subjects."

5. I then turned to their Highnesses, and asked them if they were not aware from Jeth Anund, that Colonel Pottinger had positively prohibited their levying any duties on any boats passing up and down the river, no matter who their owners are?"

Ameer. "Most certainly not. Had he told me so, I should have, written to Colonel Pottinger about it."

Then said I to Jeth Anund, "How do you account for this? I find letters in the Dufdur addressed by Colonel Pottinger to you, through Petumber Moonshee, reiterating orders previously given to you personally, to the above effect, dated 26th of April and 27th of September last year. Again, the Colonel sent some such orders to Mr. Leckie, who must have communicated them through you; and I see in a letter to Mr. Eastwick, dated 29th of November, when that gentleman was at Hyderabad, the same positive prohibition transmitted, which he certainly must have mentioned to you. How is it, therefore, that in your daily intercourse with their Highnesses you never made this known to them; and how is it, that when I asked you on several occasions, what practice prevailed, you suppressed your knowledge that it continued in opposition to Colonel Pottinger's orders to you to call upon their Highnesses to discontinue it; and that you endeavoured to lead me to suppose that such had never been intended? How is this?"

Native Agent. "You say Colonel Pottinger wrote the same to Mr. Eastwick, why did not he tell the Ameers?"

Political Agent. "I believe that gentleman had no personal interview with their Highnesses after that date, as he was obliged to go away sick shortly afterwards, and if he had occasion to communicate such a message he must have done it through you; but Colonel Pottinger's letter to Mr. Eastwick was merely an answer to a question from that gentleman, whom you may not have made acquainted with the prevailing practice, regarding which you evidently wished to blind me, and who therefore may not have seen occasion to discuss the matter; but that does not alter your case, who had repeated and positive orders direct from Colonel Pottinger on the above subject, as well as through Lieutenants Leckie and Eastwick. What your motive may have been for withholding those orders and for endeavouring to deceive me is immaterial; such is the fact." Then turning to the Ameers, I said, "Your Highnesses, who are now aware of these circumstances, must see that I can never hereafter place sufficient confidence in this man to allow him to be the medium of communication between us; consequently, I am compelled, in justice to you, as well as my duty to my superiors, to suspend Jeth Anund from all employment until the orders of the Governor-General are received. In future I shall always communicate whatever is of importance in person to your Highnesses, and I request that you will have no scruple to send for me whenever you have doubts on any subject, or wish to consult me; it will give me pleasure to visit you at all times, and there can be no occasion to employ third persons to pass between us, except in trifling matters; these sort of people too often thrive by making mischief, to render themselves of consequence and necessary; but I trust your Highnesses will always place your confidence in me; freely and without reserve declare your sentiments on all occasions, which I will make known to his Lordship, if proper; if not, I will candidly give you my opinion to the contrary. In this particular case I shall inform his Lordship of all that has passed, but I will not conceal from you that the Treaty, most certainly, as it now stands, clearly exempts all boats from tolls; that continuing to exact from your own people will throw them out of the market, and ultimately prove injurious to your revenues; whereas, by throwing open the river to them you will secure after advantages. The very letters which I have to-day addressed to you, imply his Lordship's sense of the advantage of total exemption; but your Highnesses' ideas on the subject will

be fully communicated, under the impression that you will have been wilfully kept in ignorance by the Native Agent, of the view of the British Government on the subject, which may excuse you now at this late hour referring the point for the consideration of the Governor-General; although his Lordship will be surprised that the meaning of the Article could ever have been doubtful."

6. That Meer Noor Mahomed, if not the other Ameers, was fully aware of the meaning of the Treaty I have little doubt; but ascertaining from Jeth Anund that there was no chance of Colonel Pottinger ever conceding the point in question, he had purposely abstained from pushing the matter to issue, aided by the Native Agent, who, I find (on looking over his letters to Colonel Pottinger) studiously avoided any mention of the prevalence of the practice, or sentiments of the Ameers on the subject, after one futile attempt to advocate non-interference with subjects of Sinde, in a letter not dated, but received by Colonel Pottinger on the 26th April last year, although that gentleman's reiterated orders on the subject ought to have elicited an explicit disclosure of the Ameers' object, had not Jeth Anund been bribed to their interests, for he could not possibly have been ignorant of it.

7. Notwithstanding my conviction that the Ameers' assertion, that they never so understood the Treaty, is false,—although such is possible,—I am *still*, nevertheless, of the opinion I formerly expressed, and respectfully beg leave here to repeat, that no good can arise from insisting on the literal application of the 11th Article, as exempting all merchandize and property from tolls on the river throughout Lower Sinde; that it is impolitic to bind these chiefs to different terms to what have been required from the other States similarly situated, with which treaties were made; at the same time, that no check to general commerce will be the consequence of allowing the Ameers to tax their own subjects trading on the river, in the same manner as is permitted to the other chiefs above alluded to; but that, by insisting on adhering to the strict wording of the Article in question, we should render utterly hopeless the task of ever reconciling this Government to its connexion with the British Government.

8. Should the Governor-General of India be of opinion that this point should be conceded, I would respectfully suggest that it be granted as a gracious boon, and on certain conditions calculated to prevent the exercise of the control of the Ameers over their own boats, in any way interfering with foreign merchandize thereon.

9. In conclusion, I beg to recommend that the office of Native Agent at Hyderabad be abolished, which I consider may be dispensed with with advantage, being of opinion that no verbal intercourse with the Ameers should be carried on, except by the Political Agent or his assistants, personally; and that where this is not practicable, written "yads" should be interchanged between the Agent and their Highnesses, to prevent the possibility of misunderstanding and after-denials.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 26 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, June* 22, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge your dispatches of the 11th and 22nd ultimo, on the claims of the Ameers of Lower Sinde to impose a tax or toll on the boats of their own subjects, transporting products of their own territory on the Indus, and regarding the suspension of the Native Agent, Jeth Anund.

2. On the former question, it is necessary, in the first instance, to remark, that the Ameers of Hyderadad are not, as a matter of right, to be considered as being, in respect to duties on the Indus, in any degree

in the same position as the Ameers of Khyrpore, or the Nawab of Bhawulpare; and it is of importance to explain the distinction which exists on the subject, as you illustrate your view of the fair pretensions of the Ameers, by comparing them with the privileges said to be exercised by the other rulers referred to. The Khyrpore chiefs relinquished such duties within their dominions by a voluntary concession, and their intention in the relinquishment may be fairly judged, from the manner in which the local British Authorities have allowed practical effect to be given to the boon. The Nawab of Bhawulpore retains his right to levy duties on the river within its limits, as was declared by the Treaties of 1833—1835, with the modifications to which, for the greater encouragement of trade, he may, it is confidently hoped, now agree; but the Ameers of Hyderabad had by their conduct compelled the British Government to regard them as having forfeited its friendship; and one of the conditions on which they were admitted to reconciliation, was, that the navigation of the Indus, in its course through their country, should be rendered particularly free. Undoubtedly, the understanding of the British Government in laying down the condition was, that no duty should be levied upon any goods or persons whatever, passing on the Indus; such also was, as you state, the clear understanding and intention of Sir Henry Pottinger, who negotiated the new Treaty; and such too is the explicit declaration of Article XI of the Treaty, which is in these words: "No duty will be levied on trading boats passing up or down the River Indus, from the sea to the northernmost point of that stream, within the territories of the Ameers of Hyderabad."

3. It might be apprehended, that if the British Government were to concede to the Ameers the indulgence of taxing the products of Lower Sinde, carried in the boats of Lower Sinde, room would be afforded for the most vexatious impediments being interposed to the free transit of foreign goods; for those goods could scarcely be otherwise loaded than on boats owned by subjects of the country; and, if the privilege claimed be admitted, these boats will necessarily be liable to detention and search, with a view to discover whether any portion of their cargo consists of country goods.

4. On the whole, the Governor-General in Council is satisfied that such taxes as the Ameers may think it expedient to impose upon the property of their own subjects, should be levied, as the Treaty permits, on shore, and before embarking the goods, or after their disembarkation. And it is especially requisite that the practice mentioned by you, of taxing empty boats, after the discharge of foreign cargoes, which is a plain evasion of the most distinct and important agreement of the commercial part of the new Treaty, should be wholly abandoned. You will also take every favourable opportunity for pointing out to the Ameers the mischievous consequences to their subjects and territories which must arise from hampering the commercial transactions of their own people by imposts from which those of foreigners are exempted.

5. The practice, in the point under consideration, of the Khyrpore Government, is not material to the question, which has been decided by the preceding instructions; but copies of the correspondence will be sent to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde, in order that an authentic report may be obtained of the nature and effects of that practice.

6. With Meer Shere Mahomed, who is not expressly included as a party to the new Treaty of Hyderabad, the case may appear to be in some respects different; and his Lordship in Council would desire, in the first instance, to be informed of the exact limits within which this chief exercises authority,—upon both banks of the main course of the river, or any of its branches,—and whether any portion of the rights which he claims may be conceded to him, without the same general inconvenience to the traffic which would be caused by such a concession to the other Ameers; yet his Lordship in Council is not inclined to admit the validity of the claim, even in his case. The Agreement with Sir Henry Pottinger, on which the Treaty was founded, was made by those who had previously exercised the Collective Government of Lower Sinde. The condition of the Treaty is, that no toll should be levied, from the sea upwards, within

the territories of the Ameers of Hyderabad; and it could ill be borne, that a subordinate chief, who, at the date of the agreement, was, as you remark, regarded as a subject, or a member, of the General Government of Sinde, should now stand upon his supposed independence, and, separating himself from the Ameers, impede and impair the beneficial effects of this great measure. The subsequent tender to Meer Shere Mahomed of a separate Treaty, can scarcely be construed as affecting his position in regard to this general emancipation of the river from toll; for it was only under the Treaty of March, 1839, by which tolls were intended to be altogether abolished, that the separate independence of the chiefs of Sinde was established. You will, with these considerations before you, bear in mind the very great importance which his Lordship in Council attaches to this navigation, and you will endeavour at once to maintain its freedom, and to reconcile the chiefs of Sinde to conditions which are required for the security of general commerce, and will be most conducive to their own real interests.

7. The conduct of the Native Agent, Jeth Anund, as described by you, appears open to much suspicion, but before finally sanctioning his dismissal, as unworthy of confidence, the Governor-General in Council would think it right that you should require and submit from that person a written reply to the specific allegations of neglect and violations of duty which you mention. His Lordship in Council agrees with you, that the office of Native Agent is now not necessary, a British Resident being permanently fixed at Hyderabad.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

Inclosure 27 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Private Secretary to the Governor-General.

Dear Sir, *Hyderabad, August* 8, 1840.

I RECEIVED your official dispatch, disallowing the claim of the Ameers to levy tolls from their own subjects on the Indus, alluded to in your letter dated 22nd June, only on the 28th ultimo, and as I am led to fear from the tenor of that dispatch, that I am rather blamed for agitating the question, I beg to say a few words in explanation, which I shall feel greatly obliged by your kindly conveying to his Lordship, should my fears be well founded.

In the first place, I never should have thought it necessary to refer the matter, had I been aware of what Mr. Torrens now informs me, that the Khyrpore Ameers had relinquished* that right; I certainly understand the contrary from Mr. Ross Bell's letter to Mr. Maddock, dated 8th February last, in the second paragraph of which it is stated that "I pointed out to his Highness (Meer Roostum Khan) that the consequences of his continuing to levy the river transit duties on his own subjects would inevitably injure his revenue eventually, but he did not appear to understand me, and insisted that (to use his own words) the fellows were too rich already; he will, however, learn by experience, and, in the mean while the concession he has made is a very important one; and the notification accompanying that letter runs thus:—'Under the engagements which have been entered into with the Ameers of Sinde, no duty will hereafter be demanded of merchants, not their own subjects, on goods in transit on the River Indus.'"

Under this impression, and with the knowledge that the new law never had been enforced,—however directed to be so repeatedly by my predecessor, through the Native Agent, who, to gain the Ameers' cause, wished to blind me to that fact,—and moreover, being under the firm conviction that general com-

* Mr. Torrens is certainly misinformed on this point.

merce would rather be advanced than retarded by permitting the same control over their subjects to the Lower Sinde Ameers, as is exercised by those of Upper Sinde; I certainly thought I ought to ascertain his Lordship's sentiments on the subject, before acting decidedly in the case, especially as from the circumstances of that clause of the treaty never having been explained to the Ameers, either verbally or by writing, as differing from the previous river arrangements, and no new dispute relating thereto having in the mean time arisen to call for any alteration in a concession which had been thankfully obtained from them only a few months previously, as the utmost of our object, it may be possible that the Ameers really did not understand that such was intended, as would appear from their taking no notice of it at a time when they so pertinaciously cavilled at other terms of the treaty of infinitely less importance in their eyes.

I was not at all blind to the evil consequences of granting the "right of search" to the Sinde Government, which I never contemplated allowing, and was quite prepared to provide against, for I had fully decided on the precautionary measures to be insisted on as the price of the concession, in accordance with the 8th paragraph of my dispatch, dated 22nd May, in which I stated, "should the Governor-General be of opinion that this point should be conceded, I would respectfully suggest that it be granted as a gracious boon, and on certain conditions calculated to prevent the exercise of the control of the Ameers over their own boats, in any way interfering with foreign merchandize thereon."

The intended conditions were such as would have been effectual for the object: in granting to the Ameers the power of taxing the property of their subjects embarked on the river, it was not necessary that boats should be interfered with at all, and such was never contemplated; all that was necessary was, to exclude subjects of Sinde from the right* of embarking goods free, which the Ameers would have taken their own measures to prevent within their own territory, while it would have been our duty to protect their interests beyond their frontier, by refusing passes to subjects of Sinde necessary to all boats coming from beyond Sinde; this would have satisfied the Ameers until their own interests would gradually open their eyes to the fact of the absurdity of restricting their subjects; they would then have been led into adopting what, as it is, we must drive them into.

It may be objected to this plan, that the Ameers would be subjected to all sorts of fraudulent evasion, by Sinde subjects embarking their goods through foreign merchants; but the same facility for eluding their Government must always exist in every way, now that foreigners have the freedom of the river, whether the "right of search" or the above precautions had been adopted, and therein consists the absurdity of the Ameers attempting restrictions which cannot be successfully enforced, and which, if they could be rendered effectual, would but impoverish eventually their subjects and themselves; still these short-sighted princes cannot understand this, and cannot but feel for some time to come, that their exchequer sensibly suffers, thereby causing discontent, which it was my object to obviate, and, at the same time, to avoid the galling appearance of interposing between them and their subjects, by conceding what I advocated, which appeared to me so far calculated to injure foreign trade by the Indus, that I actually considered it a means of promoting that great object by the apparent exclusion from the market of Sindian competitors, but whose free access to it would soon follow as a matter of course, when the rulers of the country became practically convinced of loss consequent on their exclusion.

The above explanation will satisfy his Lordship, I hope, that the question alluded to was neither groundlessly submitted for decision or recklessly entered into from a blind disregard to the interests of commerce, which it has hitherto been, and ever will continue to be, my first study to promote. I may be mistaken in my views, but whenever they differ from my predecessor, or are at all doubtful, I avoid error by referring the subject, which in this instance has had the good effect of keeping the Ameers in good humour, during a season

* Which has been admitted, and perhaps was never intended to be denied.

of extraordinary agitation, while at the same time they have been deterred from attempting to exercise the right claimed. As I before remarked, these people may be more satisfactorily led than driven, and while I secure all our objects by the former system, at the same time preserving perfect integrity and admitting no deception, I am sure it will please his Lordship that I do not have recourse to the latter. Hitherto it has happily succeeded, and I have every confidence that it will continue to do so. With regard to this question, I shall assure the Ameers, that the precautions they are permitted to adopt to prevent their subjects making free use of the river is sufficient for the object, and that will satisfy them so far as their own territory is concerned, though, doubtless, they will feel not being permitted to pounce upon their own people trafficking through their own territory, between foreign marts, in goods on which they used to obtain considerable revenues. Whatever they feel, however, they will submit without a murmur; but I think it just as well to avoid discussing the question for a few days until the Kelat affairs are decided satisfactorily, as they have now every prospect of being; not that there is any fear of the Ameers themselves openly displaying discontent, or that I consider it likely any of the inferior Belooch chieftains would do so; still there is no immediate necessity for agitating the question (for at present I do not permit cargoes to be interfered with); I would not needlessly add to the excitement with which the Beloochees regard the struggle of their brethren in rebellion, from whom repeated calls to join have been received by several of the inferior chieftains connected by marriage, or otherwise, with the rebel leaders.

The underhand power which the Ameers still possessed of throwing obstacles in the way of commerce by unlimited exactions from the boatmen, after delivering the cargoes, and thus obliging the latter to freight their boats at such exorbitant rates as might have amounted to exclusion, has been effectually prevented by a formal recognition of Captain Carless' rates by the Durbar, after much evasion and vexatious delays.

Another measure of public utility connected with commerce, is at present engaging the Ameers' attention, at my instigation, *id est*, opening all the roads leading from Sinde to Rajpootana, Guzerat, and Cutch, by a reduction of transit duties, and establishing a regulated rate, and single custom stations, for all the chiefs, afterwards dividing the proceeds, instead of each levying what he pleases. The Sinde Government has been led to acknowledge the freedom of these roads to all British Government property, by requesting me to cause the same regulations to be adopted by the British Authorities in these countries in the mode of granting passes, which I have instituted at Kurachee.

This, of course, might have been insisted on, but it is better to emanate voluntarily from the Government itself. The Ameers have also been brought to pledge themselves to repair and extend the pier at Kurachee: and by exciting the personal interest of their Highnesses in steam navigation, they have been induced to exert their influence to facilitate the supply and reduce the price of fuel, by which a saving of one-fourth has been effected; and it may be traced in my diary, that every measure, which occurs to me at all calculated to facilitate navigation and promote commerce, is zealously undertaken and steadily pursued,—that some have been carried into effect, and that others are in progress. I trust, therefore, that if I have erred in judgment, I may be exonerated in his Lordship's mind from wilfully obstructing the great end of our location on the Indus; and my object in now troubling you, is to remove such an impression, should it have been engendered, not with a presumptuous view of seeking any reconsideration of the decision of the Government of India on the subject, which I shall not fail to communicate to the Ameers of Hyderabad at a fitting opportunity. I have learnt nothing authentic regarding Kelat since I last wrote to you. It is reported that Shah Newaz Khan is negotiating a compromise with the son of the late chief which must be the origin of the absurd rumour of his having joined the insurgents, which to-day has been communicated to me from Sukkur, where accounts have been received from Captain Bean from Quetta, dated 25th ultimo, up to which time I am disappointed to find that officer had not been able to assume the offensive, which I had hoped he might have done, on being reinforced from Candahar, which, I presume, he was on the 19th ultimo. It is with extreme reluctance

I have trespassed on your time at such length on this occasion, but I hope the object may be deemed a sufficient apology.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 28 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Lower Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, August* 10, 1840.

IN advertence to your letters dated the 11th and 22nd of May last I am directed by the Governor-General in Council to forward for your information the accompanying document, a copy of a communication from the Political Agent, Upper Sinde, reporting that the Ameers of Khyrpore do not levy duties on merchandize, while on transit on the Indus, and request your attention to those parts of my dispatch, under date 22nd June, which remain unnoticed by you.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

Inclosure 29 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde, to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *July* 9, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 22nd ultimo, together with its inclosures, and, in reply, to state, for the information of the Governor-General in Council, that no duty is levied by the Ameers of Khyrpore on merchandize while in transit on the River Indus, whether it be the property of their own subjects or of foreign traders; all merchandize when landed, no matter who the owners may be, becomes liable to the usual duties levied in the Khyrpore States; and in exempting their own subjects, as well as foreigners, from the river transit duties, the Ameers were guided by the construction which Colonel Pottinger and myself placed on the 11th Article of the Treaty with Hyderabad.

I have, &c.,
ROSS BELL.

Inclosure 30 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Hyderabad, September* 15, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 10th ultimo, with accompanying copy of a communication from the Political Agent, Upper Sinde, reporting that the Ameers of Khyrpore do not levy duties on merchandize in transit on the Indus, and requesting my attention to those parts of your dispatch dated 22nd June last, which are unnoticed by me.

2. In reply to the latter object of your dispatch, I beg leave respectfully to refer the Governor-General of India in Council to a demi-official letter I had the honor to address Mr. Colvin, on the 8th of August, for the reasons which induced me to defer communicating his Lordship's decision on the subject of river tolls for a period, as no inconvenience could arise from any delay in settling the question. I have, in the mean time, deterred the Ameers from exercising the rights claimed; I now only await an amendment in Meer Noor Mahomed's health, to carry his Lordship's orders into effect, which I doubt not will be submissively bowed to by their Highnesses; but, being calculated perhaps to agitate the invalid Ameer, in some degree, and as nothing is compromised by the delay, I have abstained from doing so during the extremely precarious state of his Highness for the past month nearly.

3. Their Highnesses' chief ground of heart-burning is now, it appears, removed, by the Khyrpore Ameers discontinuing to exercise a right which was denied to themselves, to the relinquishment of which, Mr. Bell now announces that the former were guided by his and Colonel Pottinger's construction of the 11th Article of the Treaty of Hyderabad.

4. Had I been informed of this circumstance sooner, I should have been enabled at once to silence the murmurs of this Durbar, and should have been saved from troubling Government on this subject, or appearing before his Lordship in the disadvantageous light of permitting the agitation of a question which ought not to have been entertained, for I beg to state that long before doing so, I had, in my anxiety to avoid error, applied to Lieutenant Brown for Mr. Ross Bell's opinion, but the reply of the latter was forwarded to me only on the 2nd of June last, as follows:—"My construction of the Treaty regarding goods in transit on the River Indus, is, that all merchandize embarked at any place not in Sinde, shall be exempted from duty while passing through that country, or until actually landed for sale, at some place belonging to the Ameers. Merchandize from Bombay, or any other sea port, not in Sinde, is not liable to duty although landed at Gorabunder, provided it be re-embarked from that place. The Rahdaree Penwachee granted by me to subjects of the Ameers, were to cover freights imported from foreign marts until landed in Sinde, and not to exempt the merchants from the payment of duties on articles exported by them from Sinde, or imported for sale in this country."

5. Long previous to the receipt of that document moreover, (the words underlined in which are so in the original), and before the dispatch of my reference to his Lordship, I had been furnished with a copy of Mr. Ross Bell's letter to Mr. Maddock, of 8th February last, in which that gentleman states, "I pointed out to his Highness (Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore), that the consequence of his continuing to levy the river transit duties on his own subjects would inevitably injure his revenue eventually, but he did not appear to understand me, and insisted that (to use his own words) 'the fellows are too rich already;' he will, however, learn by experience, and in the mean time the concession he has made, is a very important one." Could there be any doubt as to the meaning of this passage, Meer Roostum Khan's determination not to exempt his own subjects is shewn in the "notification" (which accompanied Mr. Bell's letter), which proclaims as follows:—"Under the engagements which have been entered into with the Ameers of Sinde, no duty will, hereafter, be demanded on merchants, not their own subjects, on goods in transit on the River Indus."

6. It is not for me to reconcile the above quotations with Mr. Bell's more recent statement now transmitted to me, that, "In exempting their own subjects, as well as foreigners, from the river transit duties, the Ameers were guided by the construction which Colonel Pottinger and myself placed on the 11th Article of the Treaty with Hyderabad," but it is due to myself to solicit the consideration of his Lordship to the fact that all the previous information I had derived from the same source, led me to believe exactly the contrary, and I think, therefore, that I may be exonerated from the implication under which I now suffer in his Lordship's opinion, that I had presumed to question the propriety of my predecessor's policy on the strength of my own judgment alone, and lightly to doubt whether such an invidious, and, as I considered, impolitic, distinction between the Ameers of Hyderabad and Khyrpore, had been contemplated by the Governor-General, for, however amenable some of the former had rendered themselves to punishment, still one of the parties, Meer Sobdar Khan, was considered to have maintained throughout as friendly a spirit towards the British Government as had Meer Roostum Khan, while another Ameer of Khyrpore evinced at least as bitter hostility as the least friendly of the Hyderabad Ameers.

7. With regard to the reply I was directed to call for from Moonshee Jeth Anund to the specific allegations of neglect, and violations of duty mentioned by me, I could not do so without shewing that the decision of his Lordship had been received, and consequently being obliged at the same time to announce that decision which I had reason to wish to delay; but, in the mean time, as delinquencies of a more serious complexion on the part of that individual had come to light, it was no longer necessary from any spirit of justice to him to precipitate the inquiry.

8. By a letter just received from Lieutenant Brown, in answer to the question, I am told for the first time that Meer Roostum Khan last winter (November or December I presume), in an interview with Mr. Bell, agreed to exact no duty upon goods in transit on the river from his own subjects. (Mr. Bell's official letter and notification quoted above, stating the positive refusal of Meer Roostum Khan to exempt his own subjects, is dated 8th February last), notwithstanding which knowledge that gentleman abstained from previously imparting it to me although fully aware of the impression under which I advocated the claim of the Ameers, for in fact, I sent the correspondence to that gentleman, as I make a practice of doing everything that is at all connected with the interests of his charge, (besides always sending my digest of intelligence to Mr. Brown, and which I have continued to do up to the present time, notwithstanding the courtesy is never returned). These facts I consider myself obliged to lay before the Governor-General of India in Council in explanation of the grounds of my reference, dated May 22nd last, which I hope may justify the course I pursued, in the opinion of his Lordship, however erroneous my views may be considered.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

The Political Agent in Lower Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.*

Sir, *Hyderabad, October* 13, 1840.

WITH reference to your letter to my address, dated 22nd of June last, I have the honor to transmit, for the information of the Governor-General of India in Council, a translation of the written reply of Moonshee Jeth Anund to the allegations of neglect and violations of duty mentioned by me in my dispatches dated 11th and 22nd of May last, which, for reasons before stated, I delayed calling for, until lately, when the state of Meer Noor Mahomed's health led me to hope I should soon have an opportunity of personally communicating his Lordship's decision on the points therein referred to, in which I am yet disappointed, however, the Ameer still continuing in such a precarious state as to prevent my visiting his Highness for many days past.

2. The native agent, now that he knows the object of the inquiry, affirms, as might have been expected, what he had previously suppressed, that the Ameers had been duly informed by him of the real meaning of the Treaty, which, as long as he supposed I was ignorant of Colonel Pottinger's instructions to him, and unsuspicious of himself, he had endeavoured to mislead me regarding, in many conversations Lieutenant Whitelock and myself had with him on the subject (previous to the interview in which I confronted him with the Ameers), and when questioned on the subject of the indigo boat alluded to in his petition, merely informing me of the fact of the indigo being from Mooltan, but suppressing that of the owners being subjects of Sinde.

3. His object I had long suspected, having been first led to doubt his integrity by warnings from Colonel Pottinger, conveyed through Dr. Winchester, the purport of which I have called upon that gentleman to state officially for the purpose of being annexed to this letter for his Lordship's information, as also Lieutenant Whitelock's statement of the purport of Moonshee Jeth Anund's representations to him when in charge. The native agent's studious endeavour to mislead us on this point quite satisfied me of that person's corruption, and of the necessity of at once freeing myself from his mischievous interference.

4. The frauds of which this man is accused will be reported in a few days; their investigation has been much retarded by Meer Noor Mahomed's illness.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

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* This letter did not form part of the Correspondence A transmitted by Major Outram to Sir Charles Napier, with his letter of October 14, 1842.

Inclosure 31 in No. 379.

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 24, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to hand up Captain Mylne's memorandum and summary of charges against the Ameers of Lower Sinde, which appear to be fairly stated, and I agree generally in the sentiments expressed by that officer.

2. It is, however, but fair to the Ameers, that I should state that, in the toll discussions referred to in the 7th paragraph, their Highnesses declared that they always understood that the parties alluded to, for whom freedom was claimed, were foreign traders; and nothing in the quotation given by Captain Mylne shows that they were informed to the contrary, the Treaty of 1836 alluded to being expressly confined to foreign traders.

3. On bringing before you the affairs of Lower Sinde, I beg to point out the evil results of so divided a Government as at present exists, and which will become more apparent when the almost direct supervision which we now exercise, through my assistant placed at Hyderabad, is withdrawn. The object of Government in declaring all the Ameers equal, appears to have been to weaken their power to oppose the British; but, were their whole power united, they could not, under the arrangements now contemplated, exercise it hostilely without a certainty of annihilation, and they are not likely consequently ever to attempt it.

4. Any evil consequences from a firmer Government in Sinde, are not, I consider, to be apprehended, whereas benefit to the people of Sinde, to commerce, and exemption from the necessity of the British Agent interposing as we now do in all the squabbles among the Ameers, would result from elevating one of their Highnesses to the responsibility of the turbanship.

5. In a dispatch to the address of Mr. Maddock, dated the 26th of June last, I recommended that, in the event of the Governor-General approving of such an arrangement, Meer Meer Mahomed should be elevated to the chieftainship, in consideration of his previous good conduct, his superior age, and having no heirs, on condition that Meer Sobdar and sons should inherit on his death; but that chief has been so deeply implicated in the unfriendly acts of Meer Nusseer Khan, that I could no longer uphold his claim to the distinction, and would recommend, therefore, that it be at once conferred on Meer Sobdar's family.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 32 in No. 379.

Remarks by Lieutenant Mylne.

Hyderabad, October 20, 1842.

THE following extract from Colonel Pottinger's instructions to Lieutenant Eastwick, dated 13th January, 1839, on occasion of deputing that officer to Hyderabad with the Treaty of Twenty-three Articles for the acceptance of the Ameers, proves that the subject must have been freely discussed, and that their Highnesses could not be in ignorance of the terms upon which hinged the safety or destruction of their capital.

"The abolition of toll on the Indus, as laid down in Article XIV. is a necessary consequence of the treaty. The amount which their Highnesses have received in any one year, has not, I am told, amounted to above 2000, or at most 3000 rupees; therefore, the abolition of the toll is a pecuniary sacrifice not worth mentioning, whilst that step will induce hundreds of merchants to flock to this country, who will sell their goods, and repay tenfold by the duties on them, the trifling loss to which I allude. The Ameers will probably

say, that the people of the country will purchase their goods in the bazaars of our cantonments, and thereby evade the import duty. This is true, but the moment such goods are removed beyond the limits of cantonment, they will be liable to transit duties, and the increased sale will far more than compensate for the present trifling sea duties. Our cantonments, in fact, will be nothing more than the bazaar to which the Ameers have already consented, in the agreement I concluded with them in December, 1836, and from which they then freely admitted the benefit that would arise to their country, although it may well be questioned whether they then calculated on its being put to such a speedy practical proof."

2. One further extract I would adduce, as conclusive of the footing upon which the Ameers must be aware they are considered to stand in reference to the British Government. It is taken from a letter from Colonel Pottinger to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 7th March, 1839, and runs thus:—

"I begged them (the Ameers) all to look back to the important events of the last six months, and reflect if they had the slightest cause to question our fair dealings, and desire to keep on good terms with them; I said they had themselves literally imposed on us the necessity of dictating the arrangements provided for by the late treaty; that they must henceforth consider Sinde to be (as it is in reality) a portion of Hindoostan, in which our position made us paramount, and entitled us to act as we considered best and fittest for the general good of the whole empire."

3. I trust that the question regarding the freedom of the river, and immunity to traders of Sinde, may now be considered as set at rest. The perwannahs which their Highnesses have at length given, free all from restriction; and although past experience of their dexterity in evading and misconstruing the Articles of the Treaty, may well raise a doubt as to their continuance in the right path, still the Ameers have never before set their seals to any document so definitely admitting their own subjects to all the privileges of foreign merchants, in their intercourse with the British, and their transit on the river.

4. It is not to be supposed that the presence of a British force in Sinde, the growing influence of the British Government in the country, and the voice we hold in the Durbar, can be looked upon otherwise than with feelings of jealousy by the Ameers.

5. Their position is becoming daily more humiliating as each vain evasion is unmasked, and they are well aware that their subjects consider them as being completely in the hands of the British.

6. An idea appears to have pretty generally prevailed, that the Ameers are so inflated with a sense of their own fancied importance and power, that they might be tempted to take up arms against the British Government, but such an event must be viewed as most unlikely of occurrence.

7. I believe that, with the exception of Meer Nusseer Khan, each of the Ameers is satisfied to enjoy undisturbed the possession of his principality, which he feels is secured to him by treaty, alike from foreign aggression and internal usurpation.

8. Since the death of his brother, the late Meer Noor Mahomed Khan, supremacy is the goal which Meer Nusseer Khan has unceasingly kept in view, and to the attainment of which his every effort is employed; he consequently regards as an enemy whatever Power stands in the way of his ambition.

9. In most measures, the simple fact of Meer Nusseer having adopted one line of conduct, is sufficient to cause Meer Sobdar to follow the opposite course, except where the interests of the British Government are at stake, and in favour of which Meer Sobdar invariably declares, whatever may be the design of the other Durbar.

10. In January, 1841, the Political Agent publicly, on the occasion of exposing in open Durbar an intercepted treasonable letter of Meer Nusseer Khan's, granted to the Ameers indemnity from all their offences against the treaty up to that date, and every act of unfriendliness; which was confirmed by the Governor-General.

11. In bringing to notice the several acts whereby their Highnesses have seemed to have departed from the terms or spirit of their engagements, and to

have evinced unfriendliness to the British Government, I have assumed the above as the date to which it was necessary to look back, and it does not appear requisite to carry back our review of the unfriendly dealings of the Ameers, beyond that period, inasmuch as their delinquencies may fairly be considered to have cancelled any debt of obligation, on account of services rendered.

12. To Meer Nusseer Khan, it will have been perceived, may be traced the greater part, if not the whole, of the annoyance brought to notice in the foregoing statement.

13. The overwhelming desire of supremacy has induced his Highness to take the lead in all matters connected with the exactions at Kurachee, and on the river, as he endeavours to do in everything.

14. Although there can be but little doubt that his Highness has (even since forgiven and warned by the Political Agent) employed himself in corresponding clandestinely with foreign States, expressing professions of dislike to the British Government, and desire to be released from its thraldom, still I am unable to produce documentary proof* in support of my assertion, for not only have his cossids successfully eluded the means used to intercept them, but of late his Highness has not often trusted the committal of his ideas to paper, but has dispatched trusty messengers furnished merely with credentials, certifying that to the bearer was confided his Highness's inmost thought.

15. I subjoin one or two short notices from the Political Diary, bearing upon the above point.

"Letter received by Meer Nusseer from Khan Shureem Khan, of Cabool, calling on him to rise against the British; the bearer was rewarded by Meer Nusseer. No written answer was given. He said he could not at present cope with the English. The original was dispatched to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore†."

"Meer Nusseer said to have received two letters from Mooltan: one, containing merely condolence, he sent for the perusal of the Political Agent; the other, he tore up and concealed its contents‡."

"Mention is made of messages unfriendly to the British Government, having been sent to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, by the hands of Meer Jan Khan, also of information given by———, and———that Meer Nusseer is corresponding in every direction."

CHAS. D. MYLNE.

* Copies of translations of intercepted letters from Meer Nusseer Khan, which were in my possession, have been added to the list of cases against that Ameer, vide Appendix O.

† Digest 14th, 30th March, 1842.

‡ Digest, 4th April, 1842.

Inclosure 33 in No. 379.

Memorandum of the several acts whereby the Ameers of Lower Sinde seem to have departed from the terms of, or spirit of, their engagements to the British Government, drawn up for the information of Major-General Sir Charles Napier :—

Document referred to	Offender.	Offence.
Occurrences: May 17, 1841	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Assembled troops to attack Meer Shere Mahomed of Meerpore, on account of a boundary dispute which had been referred to the British Government for arbitration, and which was then under the consideration of the British Government; thus unnecessarily endangering the peace of the country, in breach of the spirit of the 4th Article of the Treaty. N.B. Meer Shere Mahomed was not at that time in treaty with the British Government.
June 28, 1841	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	On the Political Agent refusing to investigate officially a matter between Sindhian subjects at Shikarpore, Meer Nusseer begged Major Outram to request Lieutenant Postans to inquire into it privately. To this the Political Agent agreed; and, on the result of the investigation being made known to Meer Nusseer, his Highness accused the Assistant Political Agent of a breach of the 5th Article of the Treaty; thus, in seeking to embroil the Political Agent, himself transgressing the 1st Article of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, A. 1. „ 2. „ 3.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Participates with Meer Meer Mahomed in the blame of exacting toll from merchants belonging to the British cantonment of Sukkur, and the Punjab, also in defending the act committed, and declaring his intention to commit it in future; being a breach of the 11th Article.
Vide Appendix, B. 1. „ 2.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Sets aside the 11th Article of the Treaty in doing away with free transit by the Indus, notwithstanding the remonstrance of the Political Agent by letter, dated 29th October, a few days before delivered.
Occurrences for the week ending Feb. 13, 1841.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan. NOTE.—Although legal proofs are not appended, the whole proceedings of the Ameer, with reference to the Shikarpore transfer, shew that he repented of the bargain, and wished to annul it, when led by our disasters in Affghanistan, to hope that our power would be overturned. J. OUTRAM.	On receipt of intelligence regarding the unfavourable state of our affairs in Affghanistan, his Highness held a secret conference with others; and, in hope of benefiting by our misfortunes there, decided on delaying the transfer of Shikarpore, which he now repented having made over, by letter dated 16th of August. His future conduct, in regard to Shikarpore, was in accordance with that decision; this being contrary to the friendship and unity of interest pledged in the 1st Article of the Treaty.
"Digest," ending March 18, 1842. Ditto, of March 23. Ditto, of April 13, 1842.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan. NOTE.—The assistant Political Agent's "Digest," being founded only on native information cannot be received as proof, but I have no doubt of the fact. J. OUTRAM.	Coined secretly at his shikargah debased money, for the purpose of defrauding the British Government, and evading the 3rd Article of the Treaty, by paying less than the stipulated subsidy.

Document referred to	Offender.	Offence.
"Digest," ending March 18, 1842.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Hoping to benefit by reverses that were expected to happen to the British in Affghanistan, delayed fulfilling the 3rd Article of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, C. 1.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Through his Kardars, exacting toll on the river and obstructing its freedom, in breach of Article II of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, D. 1.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Through his Kardar, Sawun Mull, at Madargee, obstructs the freedom of the river, and extorts tollage, in breach of the 11th Article of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, E. 1, and Occurrences, Aug. 6, 1842.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Through his officers at Subzulkote, obstructing the freedom of the river, exacting tolls in breach of the 11th Article of the Treaty, and refusing to refund the money thus exacted.
Occurrences ending August 17, 1842. Ditto, 31st August. "Digest," of Sept. 7. Vide Appendix, F. 1. F. 2. F. 3.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	Issuing orders to his officers at Kurachee to prevent the free supply at the British cantonment's bazaar; thus acting contrary to the spirit, and trying to evade the letter, of the 12th Article of the Treaty; these orders being also in contradiction of those issued by desire of the Governor-General.
Occurrences ending Sept. 7, 1842.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan. NOTE.—The Governor-General's Orders having been conveyed to him, the Ameer desisted from his attempt to seize the disputed village. J. OUTRAM.	Employing a body of armed men to threaten Yazeen Ghurree, the property of Meer Hoossein Ali, and continuing there to employ them, while the matter was under reference to the British Government, which, by the 6th Article of the Treaty, guaranteed the possessions of each Ameer.
Pol. Diary, Persian Department, 13th September, 1842. Appendix, G. 1.	Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan.	In persisting to impede the transit of boats by the river, and levying toll at Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara by violence, in breach of the 11th Article of the Treaty.
"Digest," ending Sept. 28; and Appendix, H. 1.	Meer Nusseer Khan.	Refuses to abide by the 11th Article of the Treaty.
Appendix O. Nos. 1 and 2.	Meer Nusseer Khan. Intercepted letters.	No. 1. Letter addressed to Sawun Mull of Mooltan, the original sent to Mr. Clerk, and not yet returned. That gentleman has been requested to furnish Mr. Maddock with a translation. No. 2. Letter addressed to Beebruck, chief of the Boogtie Northern Hill tribes, without date, supposed to have been written about a month ago.
Vide Appendix, A. 1. A. 2. A. 3. M. A. 1.	Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.	Through his Ijarehdar at Nao Dera, exacting by force of arms, tolls from the boats of three merchants of the British cantonment bazaar at Sukkur, and afterwards expressing his determination to persist in breaking the 11th Article of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, M. B. 1. M. B. 2.	Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.	Through his officers at Chandkeh obstructing the free transit of the river, and levying toll, the same being in breach of the 11th Article of the Treaty.
Vide Appendix, M. C. 1. "Digest," of July 6, 1842.	Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.	Through his officers at Larkhana, infringing the 11th Article of the Treaty.

Document referred to	Offender.	Offence.
Vide occurrences ending Aug. 31, 1842, and Appendix, F. 1. F. 2. M. D. 1.	Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.	Issuing orders to his officers at Kurachee to prevent the free supply of the British cantonment bazaar, thus acting contrary to the spirit, and trying to evade the letter, of the 12th Article of the Treaty; these orders being also in contradiction to the perwannah issued by four Ameers by desire of the Governor-General.
Vide Appendix, S. 1.	Meer Shahdad Khan.	Commanding the appearance at Hyderabad of the Native Agent of the British Government at Kurachee, without reference to the Political Authorities.
Vide Appendix, S. 1.	Meer Meer Mahomed Khan.	Ditto ditto.
Vide Appendix, H. A. A. 1.	Meer Hoossein Ali Khan.	In breach of the 11th Article of the Treaty, his officers at Tatta stopped boats to levy duty.
Vide Appendix, H. A. B. 1.	Meer Hoossein Ali.	In breach of the 11th Article, his officers at Tatta again detained boats and levied tolls. N.B. In both the above instances the error was immediately rectified by his Highness, who promised to punish any of his people who should in future levy tolls. The offence has not been repeated.
Many letters (noted in Political Diaries throughout this year) have been sent, calling for payment, and have elicited promises which have not been fulfilled. These answers are also noted in the Diaries.	Meer Shere Mahomed Khan.	Has failed to fulfil the part of the treaty which stipulates that he shall pay to the British Government the sum of 50,000 rupees per annum, he having, up to the present time, paid only 11,225 rupees, although the total amount was due on the 1st February last. *CHAS. D. MYLNE,* *Assistant in Charge.*

Inclosure 34 in No. 379.

A. No. 1.

Translation of an Urzee from Tarrachund, merchant in the Sudder Bazaar at Sukkur, to the Assistant Political Agent at Sukkur.

THAT your petitioner having purchased wheat in the Sudder bazaar, is in the habit of taking it for sale by the river to Rutta Dera and Yibbana, and there he sells it, paying the tax according to the custom of the country.

Now Faree Mull Ijarehdar, without reason, has taken 176 rupees on account of the tonnage at Nao Dera, by violence and force of fire-arms, and has given out that in future tolls will be levied; such has never been the custom of the English, but where goods are landed and sold there is duty levied upon them. Therefore your petitioner hopes you will order Faree Mull Ijarehdar to desist from levying tolls, and to give back what he has taken from merchants on that account, and that in future he shall at once abstain from taking toll.

Translation of a Petition from Wadoo Mull, Gomashta of Chetoo Mull and Jeyt Sing.

September 8, 1841.

THAT your petitioner, according to his perwannah, sent a boat-load of wheat from the Sudder Bazaar towards Larkhana. At the Bunder of Nao Dera, Faree Mull Ijarehdar stopped the boat and demanded toll which has been abolished; where the goods are sold, there the tax is paid according to custom. Now Faree Mull, in breach of agreement, takes toll and demands it for the past, and has put his own people in your petitioner's boat and demands eight annas per diem for their subsistence; these demands are most unjust. Your petitioner has no protection but the British Government, and if, in traffic, there are such obstacles, how shall it be carried on? It is necessary you should do justice in this case, otherwise the road of merchants will be quite shut.

Translation of a Petition from Marain Doss and Rady Kishen, dated September 10, 1841.

DURRUND DOSS, who is your petitioner's gomashta in Larkhana, has informed me, by writing, that a boat laden with grain has been seized by Faree Mull Ijarehdar, on account of tonnage at the Bunder of Kangreh, and has placed a peon on it, who is required to be subsisted; he will not release the boat but has stopped it. This Faree Mull is a man of little mind, and such tyranny has never taken place before, and he has taken 200 rupees from Gyan, gomashta in Nao Dera, and demands 500 more on account of tolls. Whenever grain is sold, in the direction of Larkhana and Rutta Dera, that duty is always paid. Be kind enough to order Faree Mull not to exact tolls, and to give back whatever he has taken from the gomashtas, and that in future he do not exact tolls from any boat.

Translation of a Petition from Yessay Sung and Koortoo Mull.

A BOAT belonging to your petitioner, and laden with grain, was proceeding from the Sudder Bazaar in the direction of Larkhana; when the boat arrived at Nao Dera, Faree Mull Ijarehdar seized the boat on account of tolls, and having beaten Koorto Mull with a shoe, unjustly took from him one hundred rupees on account of tolls. The boat is still stopped at Kangreh.

This tyranny Faree Mull has done without reason, and such never has been in the country of the English. Be kind enough to order the Ijarehdar to take duties where the goods are sold, and not to exact another pice, and to give back the rupees, 100, which he unjustly took, and to release the boat, and in future not to commit such "Zoolum."

Translation of a Petition from Oomer Khan, merchant of Loodiana.

FIVE days ago, having received from you a perwanna for three boats, I in terms of it sent goods towards Larkhana. When the boats arrived at Khukkur-ke-kote, Faree Mull by violence seized the boats and demanded tollage. He has placed six sepoys of his own in the boats, and these sepoys take from the gomashta daily six seers of flour and fourteen pice, and have beaten the tindals. On account of this injustice your petitioner has shewn your perwanna to the Ijarehdar, but he pays no attention to it, and says that he will exact four rupees on each khurwar and then will release them. This is extraordinary conduct of the Ijarehdars, that although a perwanna is shewn

to them, they pay no attention to it. If the Ijarehdar does such injustice and pays no attention to perwannas, I shall be obliged to leave the country. I have confidence in the Sirkar that you will arrange this business for me.

A. No. 2.

Meers Meer Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed Khans to Lieutenant Leckie.

WE have received two yaddashts. In one it is written that the grain-boats of merchants have been stopped, and in the other that Faree Mull Ijarehdar has taken toll from the boats. We did not send an answer, because we wished to wait until we had received the report of the Kardar of Chandkeh. The ureeza of Faree Mull Dewan has now arrived at our shikargah of Kuchah; we have sent it along with this letter, that you may understand all about it. All our expenditure on account of our troops, servants, and tribute, &c., is known to you, and our livelihood depends upon the taxes. If in this manner the merchants of Shikarpore and Chandkeh, and other inhabitants of Sinde, shall load boats with grain and other merchandize in the name of the British Government, and having put belts on their people, shall get exemption from tolls which have always been taken, how shall the tribute and other expenses be paid? this is quite contrary to the justice of the British Government. The Governor-General is wealthy and just; our country and wealth belong to the Company, and our profit and loss are those of the Government also: most assuredly the Governor-General will not allow us to lose, and it is not proper that we should lose; therefore we write to you, that out of friendship you may distinctly write to the gentleman, that in future he may pay no attention to the servants of Sinde, and that every thing may go on as formerly.

Translation of an Ureeza from Faree Mull, Ijarehdar of Meer Mahomed, and inclosed in the above.

THE matter is as follows: that merchants, Mussulman and Hindoo inhabitants of Shikarpore and Chandkeh, without the orders of the British Government, having made peons for themselves, and having brought them with them, coming into this country, call themselves the gomashtas of the English Government, and get exemption from the Ijarehdars from tolls and taxes, and formerly it was your order that there is exemption from tax on goods *bonâ fide* for the use of the British Government, but that from any other merchant it should be taken: according to your orders I have taken toll and tax from all, small and great; but the gentlemen in Sukkur, from what the merchants say to them, are partial to the gomashtas, and from their persuasion the gomashtas have power.

Therefore I write you may be kind enough to get from the Sahib at Hyderabad a letter to the Sahib at Sukkur, to this effect, that he may not assist, or be partial to any merchant, in order that after the receipt of this paper, I may take tolls from the merchants, according to the original laws.

A. No. 3.

Translation of a Yaddasht bearing the seals of Meers Meer Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed Khans, to the address of Lieutenant Leckie.

October, 16, 1841.

WE have received your yaddasht of the 12th of October, in which it is written that you have received one letter, saying that we will give a distinct reply after getting the report of Faree Mull Ijarehdar, and that you beg that we will send a distinct reply; we sent you at first a distinct reply, inclosing the Ijarehdar's ureeza from our shikargah of Meeanee; and now also we write,

that from the beginning this was the arrangement: that if any merchant, or dependent of the British Government, should bring a boat laden with foreign goods by the Indus, he should not be liable to pay any tolls, but it never was intended that the merchants of Shikarpore and Larkhana, and the other inhabitants of Sinde, should bring boats laden with grain, alkáli, indigo, coarse sugar, and other products of Sinde, and take them out of the Indus free of duty. It is not concealed from you that hitherto our means of living have been derived merely from the duties: the exaction of tolls has from olden time been established, and merely in order to please the Governor-General, we exempted from tolls merchants, the dependents of the English Government, who bring different kinds of cloths, &c., from foreign parts. Taking into consideration that the friendship and affection of the British and Sinde Sirkar is without limit, it follows that the country and wealth, profit and loss of this Government should be considered by the English Government as its own. The Governor-General is wise and just, and will never allow this Government to suffer loss.

B. No. 1.

Translation of a Letter from Moonshee Petamber Doss to the Assistant Political Agent.

Ghorabaree, November 7, 1841.

THIS morning a Marwaree named Suda Anund, gomashta of Kisben Lall informed me that his boat had arrived from Bombay, laden with goods, and that the Ijarehdar of this place had given him and the tindal much abuse and had stopped the boat. I sent a peon to inquire into the matter. The Ijarehdar abused him likewise; I sent another message to him, that the Sirkar had opened the river, and that whoever shut it, was guilty of an offence. The Ijarehdar paid no attention to this, but abused both the messenger and me so much, that all the bystanders began to bite ther fingers. I informed a Doctor Sahib, who was here two days, of the matter, and he gave it as his advice, that it was better not to fight with such a man, but to give him a note on the subject. I therefore inform you, that if this matter be not arranged, the river will be closed, and the authority of the English Government, which has been established here for many years, will be destroyed.

B. No. 2.

Translation of a Yaddasht from Meer Nusseer Khan to the Assistant Political Agent.—(*Received November* 16, 1841.)

I HAVE received the yaddasht which you sent. In it you wrote that the river is open, and that there is no necessity for perwannahs. I have understood it. It is well known that from Meer Moorad Ali's time, tolls upon boats the property of merchants, dependents of the British Government, have been removed. As Colonel Outram, in presence of Meer Noor Mahomed and myself, in the jumptee near Kuddy, asked Moonshee Jeth Anund about Colonel Pottinger's message, the Moonshee said, that he had not explained to the Durbar the subject of the merchants of Sinde; and I again made this arrangement with Colonel Outram, that all merchants of the dependency of the English Government, who travel by the river, should provide perwannahs for their boats; we will not now make any change, and when Colonel Ontram comes here, we will make a proper arrangement about it.

C. No. 1.

Translation of a Yaddasht from Meer Nusseer Khan to the Assistant Political Agent.

May 6, 1842.

I HAVE received your letter of the 3rd May, inclosing a petition from Marwaree merchants, showing that the Ijarehdar of Sewan had stopped their boats on account of duties, and that in the disturbance seven rupees fell out from a knot. I have understood all. According to your directions, I have written to the Ijarehdar to release the boat and search for the rupees, but I understand from the Kardar, that these merchants had no perwannahs from any Sahib, and therefore the boat was detained; it is therefore necessary that you should write perwannahs for people, and in future make arrangements that merchants may have perwannahs, and I may not suffer loss.

D. No. 1.

Translation of a Petition from Hat Sing and Roop Chund, merchants of Shikarpore, to Lieutenant Brown.

June 13, 1842

THAT the gomashta of your petitioners brought a boat-load of jowaree at Chandkeh for the use of the Commissariat, and was sending it here; when the boat arrived at Madargee, Sawun Mull, who is a Ijarehdar at that place, detained the gomashta and the boat, and will not release them, and wishes to exact tollage: on this account, the tindal having ran away, has come here and informed me that Sawun Mull, a dependent of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, has detained the boat. I hope you will arrange this matter.

E. No. 1.

Translation of a Petition from Kota Mull to Lieutenant Brown.

July 30, 1842.

THAT eleven days ago, your petitioner dispatched Lukkoo Mull, gomashta, with a boat load of ghee and oorud towards Sukkur, from Abadpore, in the dependency of Bhawul Khan Daoodpotra. When the boat arrived at Bhoong Bhara, which is in the territories of Subzulkote, belonging to the Meer of Hyderabad, Natun Mull, the Kardar of that place, stopped the boat, and took away two and a quarter maunds of ghee, about the value of fifty rupees, and then relased the boat. The Ameer's man has never done so before since the Indus and Sutledj have been open. By the orders of the Sirkar the river is free from tolls; I know not why the Kardar took these two and a quarter maunds of ghee; therefore I beg that you will make such arrangements as shall cause the Kardar to restore the ghee, and not again trouble any one.

F. No. 1.

Translation of a Perwanna bearing the seals of the four Ameers, to the Killadar of Kurachee, Gholam Hoossein, Mahomed Sadig, Dewan Moolschund, Techund, collectors of customs.

CAPTAIN JOHN LECKIE has written to us, asking that exemption from tax may be granted on every kind of article for consumption or wearing, which is required for the use of the camp of the British at Kurachee; and

Captain Leckie has also said, that if any one shall purchase goods in camp, and take them outside, the Kardars of the Sinde Government shall take duty from him, as from others.

The friendship and openness of mind, and one wealth of the British and Sinde Governments, are beyond all limit, and daily increase; on this account, the tax upon all articles of eating and clothing which are required for the use of the army, and other people within the camp, is remitted; therefore we write to you, that whatever things of every kind, and things of the description of cloth, and other things shall be brought for the use of the army, and other servants of Government within the camp, shall be exempt from tax. But if any person's goods of any kind, or cloth, or other things, shall be brought out of camp, tax must be taken from them, as from others. Understand these injunctions as most imperative.

F. No. 2.

Translation of a Perwanna to Gower Mull and Zekechund, Kardars of Kurachee, of their Highnesses Meers Meer Mahomed and Nusseer Mahomed Khans.

WE have heard that the Banyans of Kurachee, by their own villany, have established godowns in the camp of Kurachee, and desire that whatever goods arrive this season, may be stored in the camp, and, and by this we have understood your folly and neglect. It is written in the Treaty between the Sinde and British Governments, that the officers of the latter shall not listen to the complaints of the subjects of the former. On the receipt of this perwannah, you are to prohibit the establishment of shops; if they do not obey your orders, punish them severely; remove their stores; and, by your wisdom, make such arrangements that not one cowrie of loss of revenue may accrue to us; and do the business of the English with great discretion. Give the inclosed to John Leckie Sahib; ask after his health, and send us his answer.

F. No. 3.

Translation of a Perwanna from Meer Nusseer Khan to the Killadar of Kurachee and other officers of that place.

I HAVE been informed that many Banyans have established godowns in the camp bazaar of the English; I will never allow the Banyans of Kurachee, or the Ryots of any other part of Sinde, which God has given us, or artificers, to settle in the camp bazaar. And also in the new treaty which has been made between the British and Sinde Governments, it is not written that the English officers shall have any regard or kindness for any subjects of Sinde, or hear their complaints. I therefore write to you, that no Banyan of Kurachee, or inhabitant of Sinde, shall establish a godown or shop in the camp bazaar, or shall employ himself in artificer's work, or merchandize; if he does, you shall plunder his house, confiscate his property to Government, and put himself in the stocks, in order that he may be an example to others, that no one may in future commit such things, because my revenues suffer much loss of customs from this matter: it is necessary that there should be no misunderstanding about what is written above. Be firm in your different posts.

G. No. 1.

Translation of a Petition from Mehur Chund of Mitten Kote, to Lieutenant Brown.—(Received September 13, 1842.)

IT it is known that the orders of the two Sirkars, and the regulations which Mackeson Sahib established for the freedom of the river towards the south, are still in force, and that until this time no one has offended against

them; but now the Kardars of the Hyderabad Ameer, at Subzul and Bhoong, and Bhoota, annoy empty boats, and take money from them. For instance from one of my boats they took forty rupees, from another sixty rupees, and gave out that they would likewise tax the boats, on account of the cargoes they had carried down. Having heard this, I am wondering what is the intention of these people.

This matter must be arranged by you, and you must give a peon and perwannah to remain with the boats, that no one may annoy them, and give the Kardars injunctions not again to do such things.

H. No. 1.

Translation of a Yaddasht to the address of the Assistant Political Agent, from Meer Nusseer Khan, and received on the 25th of September, 1842.

I HAVE received your yaddasht, in which you say that you have forwarded my perwannah, in which it is written that, to Bhawulpore and Bombay, and other merchants in connexion with the British Government, no exaction of tollage shall be made from the salt sea to the sweet sea, in order that the business of those merchants may be allowed to proceed; but that the river is open to the merchandize of all, from the north to the south, and that it is necessary a perwannah should be sent on the Kardars, that all are exempt from the exactions of tolls, and, otherwise, that you will make known to the Governor-General all these branches of the Treaty. I have understood all this. You know very well that on this very account, Colonel Outram was angry with Moonshee Jeth Anund. I sent you a perwannah that no toll was to be taken from any merchant of Bhawulpore, or Bombay, or other dependency of the British Government, in order that no Kardar might exact toll from these persons, and that where they buy or sell there shall they pay duty, according to the custom of the place. Other merchants are of Sinde, my subjects, and in Article V. of the Treaty it is thus written, that the jurisdiction of the British Government shall not be introduced into the territories of Sinde, nor shall the complaints of the subjects of Sinde be listened to. Merchants, the subjects of Sinde, have always paid toll and duty according to rule. To me the Article of the Treaty is approved and right; and there is not a hair's breadth difference in it. You have broken Article V. of the Treaty. The Governor-General, the ruler of India, understands well, is wise and just, and I know well that he will never approve of my being a loser, and by every means and manner will promote my welfare and profit.

No. 2 of Appendix O.— — —

Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to Beebruck Boogtie.

To the Asylum of exaltation and happiness.

PRIOR to this a perwannah was sent to you, and you have no doubt acted up to the orders therein conveyed, since you are an old and trusty servant of this Sirkar; for this reason you ought to consider yourself worthy of the favour of the Sirkar, whose kindness is likely to be daily increased towards you; it behoves you, therefore, to exhibit your gallantry and bravery, for you are aware of the treaty between this Sirkar and some people, which was only entered into to gain time, and to put off matters for the moment, and the day appears now to have arrived; and I also wrote to you before, on this matter; and it is now evident that some people have been worsted by the Ghazees of Khorassan, and are without hope, and are retreating towards Sinde; and, although by the grace of God and the assistance of the Prophet (upon whom be peace), every arrangement that is possible will be made by this Sirkar, to expel them from this country, still you being an especial servant, ought to be of good cheer, and to exhibit a degree of courage more than on former occasions, and be ready with your foot in the stirrup, and in expectation of my orders; and also to signify to your brother Beloochees and other mountain

tribes; to depend upon the favour of the Sirkar, and to hold themselves in readiness to act with you, and act according to the orders you will receive from me, and to show courage equal to that of "Dodá Murree," that your prowess may become known.

(Without date.)

Mr. G. Clerk, Governor-General's agent and Envoy to the Court of Lahore, has been requested to furnish a translation of the letter from Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, to Sawun Mull, which ought to have formed No. 1 of Appendix O, with his opinion as to the authenticity or otherwise of the document.

M. A. 1.

Translation of a Yaddasht, bearing the seal of Meer Meer Mahomed, to the address of Lieutenant Leckie. December 17, 184[illegible]

I HAVE received your yaddasht, explaining that the Political Agent's Assistants had written to you, that Faree Mull Ijarehdar will not give back the money, and that a stronger perwannah is required, ordering the money to be quickly paid. What you wrote with the pen of friendship, I have understood. In order to please you I send the money which the Ijarehdar took, but in future, toll will be taken from the merchants of Sinde as in ancient times. What more can I write.

M. B. 1.

Translation of a Petition from Wadoo Jahun, merchant of the Sudder Bazaar of Sukkur, to the Assistant Political Agent, and received the 19*th of April.*

THAT your petitioner, by the favour of the English living in the Sudder Bazaar, gets his livelihood as a merchant, and buying merchandize, carries it away in boats, and pays the tax wherever he sells it, and he holds a perwannah from the Sirkar exempting him from tolls; on this account no one has interfered with him for several years. Now Faree Mull, without reason, has taken sixty rupees from him on account of tolls, and in future will continue the exaction. I therefore beg that you will give me a perwanna, directing Faree Mull to give back the money aforesaid, and in future to abstain from these unlawful exactions.

Where I sell, there will I pay the tax.

M. B. 2.

Translation of a Yaddasht from Meer Meer Mahomed Khan to Lieutenant Mylne. (*Received July* 2, 1842.)

YOUR yaddasht has arrived, and I am glad to hear of your health, and I have understood what you say about giving back the money which Faree Mull took from the merchants.

The new treaty is approved by me, and there shall not be a hair's breadth difference in it,—on this account I have written to the Kardar of Chandkeh; his reply will quickly arrive. If the Dewan aforesaid has taken the money from any foreign merchants the dependents of the British Government, I will give the money back, but if he has taken it from Sindian merchants, then he has only done acccording to original custom, because the inhabitants of Sinde are my subjects.

M. C. 1.

Translation of a Petition from Meber Chund, merchant in the Sudder Bazaar of Sukkur, to the Assistant Political Agent. June 29, 1843.

YOUR Petitioner received a perwannah from you for exemption from tax from Sukkur to Hyderabad. A new Kardar on the part of Meer Meer Mahomed has come to Larkhana; he has by tyranny taken from me 20 rupees, and has ordered me to bring a new perwannah that will enable me to get back my money, and not to be in future disturbed for tolls.

M. D. 1.

Translation of a Perwanna from Meer Meer Mahomed Khan to Tezchund, Kardar at Kurachee.

I HAVE sent Hoossein Khan Bluckuree, who is as a brother, as Killadar of Kurachee, and for the arrangement of the Ijarehdar in the camp of the English, and to keep an eye on the poor people of the town, and to dig up the new godowns within the camp which the people of the Bunder of Kurachee have made there; and to keep an eye on (protect) the camels, and bullocks, and artificers, the subjects of Sinde, from the British Government; and to comfort the poor Ryots who are oppressed by the tyrannical English; and to make firm the Custom-house; and to seize the thievish goods of the Parsees; according to the petition of my officers and the request of the contractor, he has been sent; he will shortly arrive, and without fear of the English, will make the arrangement about the Ijarehdar of the town, and camp of the English, and the firmness of the Custom-house.

In future you must send the news of the condition of the English, and let us know if any eminent man of the English comes. Your service and welfare depend upon this.

By the perwanna of Mahomed Khan Torah.

S. 1.

Translation of a Perwanna from Meer Meer Mahomed Khan to Nao Mull, Native Agent of Government at Kurachee, dated the month of Shahban (September), 1258.

YOU are now called to our presence. It is necessary that, on receiving this perwanna, you should immediately contentedly present yourself at our door. In your coming do not make one moment's delay, and, believing the favour of both Ameers to be with you, do as you are desired in this writing, and consider the injunction most imperative.

Translation of a Perwanna from Meer Shahdad Khan to Nao Mull, Native Agent of Government at Kurachee, dated the month of Shahban (September), 1258.

YOU are now called to our presence. You are of old, and from the time of Meer Noor Mahomed, a servant of the Government, and a payer of taxes. It is necessary that on the receipt of this perwanna, you should contentedly, and without fear, quickly leave Kurachee, and present yourself at our door. Make no delay, and believing the kindness of this Sirkar to be with you, quickly bring yourself here, and make no delay in coming. Take what has been written into full consideration, and do as directed.

H. A. A. 1.

Translation of a Yaddasht from Meer Hoossein Ali to the Assistant Political Agent, dated December 17, 1841.

I HAVE received your yaddasht and the petition of the Shikarpore merchants by the hands of Mhadajee Moonshee; you write that the Ijarehdar of Tatta has stopped boats for tolls, and that it is necessary the boats should be released and the Ijarehdar punished.

According to your directions I have given orders to the Ijarehdar, that he is not on any account to stop boats, and I will so punish him that he will not again stop any boat.

H. A. B. 1.

Translation of a Yaddasht from Meer Hoossein Ali to the Assistant Political Agent, dated March 4, 1842.

I HAVE received your yaddasht of the 2nd March, inclosing a petition from Marwaree merchants; you have written that Lucheeran, Ijarehdar of Tatta, has exacted thirty-five Company's rupees from the merchants, and that it must be given back.

I have understood this. I have given strict injunctions to this Ijarehdar and Bukhasha Khidmutgar, who has now gone to Tatta, that this money must be given back.

Inclosure 35 in No. 379.

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 18, 1842.

IN compliance with your request to be furnished with every information relating to the late negotiations regarding the transfer of Shikarpore, and the estimated value of that and the Sukkur districts, I have the honor to furnish you with copies of correspondence marked A, shewing the state in which the negotiations now rest, which, as you wish to be made acquainted with all that has passed on both sides, I do not attempt to curtail. From these documents, you will observe that the only points remaining to be adjusted with the Ameers of Hyderabad, were left to the decision of the Governor-General, and can be at once disposed of according to his Lordship's pleasure.

2. At the same time to shew you how the question first originated, I hand up copies of previous correspondence marked B.

3. With respect to the real value of the Shikarpore and Sukkur districts we can give no certain accounts, not having ourselves collected the revenue, but Lieutenant Postans narrowly examined the accounts of the Ameers' kardars, and carefully tested them, which, with the many sources of information he possessed, enabled that gentleman to form what I believe to be a tolerably accurate estimate of the revenue derived by the Ameers of Hyderabad, which he judged to be about one and a half lac of rupees annually. The Ameers' accounts show 2,25,927 rupees as the collections for 1840 (vide Appendix C), but would prove to us about two lacs, Lieutenant Postans thinks: we may fairly expect, however, prospective and rapid increase beyond that value, were the country to be declared British territory, which would cause cultivators to flock from all quarters, the only thing wanting to put the country under cultivation every foot of which is of the richest nature and capable of irrigation from the two large canals which traverse it, and afford a certain annual supply of water on the inundation of the Indus; at present, I suppose, five-sixths of the whole is waste, owing to the scanty population caused by the tyranny of the Sinde rulers.

4. Of the Hyderabad shares in these districts, the British Government may fairly possess itself, by virtue of previous negotiation, on the Governor-General's decision, as to the number of years of previous revenue, on which the average is to be struck for its valuation; but circumstances which have occurred since the suspension of the discussion, his Lordship may, perhaps, consider to warrant our placing the arrangement on a very different footing, *i.e.*, that the nominal sovereignty of the territory in question and consequent right of coinage, should no longer be continued to the Ameers, and that the share of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, may be declared forfeit, as a punishment for his late obnoxious proceedings, while that of his nephews, amounting probably to about their share of the tribute (one lac), would be met by remission thereof.

5. Should it be decided to hold Shikarpore as a British possession, it will be necessary to arrange with the Ameers of Upper Sinde, for the transfer of the three-sevenths of the city and portion of the district belonging to them; of these, the share belonging to Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, is valued at 86,423 rupees (vide Appendix D), which our pecuniary claims against him (to form the subject of a separate report) are equal to the purchase of, I should suppose; but, if not so, his Highness has rendered himself amenable to fine of the remainder, by his implication in the intrigues of Meer Roostum Khan's party.

6. Meer Roostum Khan, as the ostensible leader in the late infractions of the Treaty, and responsible head in the Khyrpore State, would be lightly punished by the forfeiture of his share of the districts amounting to the estimated value of 1,03,203 rupees, together with the cession of the fortress of Bukkur, and two islets adjoining, which yield nothing.

7. Meer Ali Moorad's share of the Sukkur and Shikarpore districts is valued at 39,350 rupees, which he may, I believe, he induced to relinquish for the recognition of his claim to the turbanship of Upper Sinde, on the demise of Meer Roostum Khan (which question will be separately submitted to you hereafter).

8 The only remaining sharer is Meer Mahomed Khan of Khyrpore, whose territory is valued at 15,700 rupees, which might be purchased I presume, by an assignment on the revenues, of that amount annually.

9. The above parties are all that are interested in the Shikarpore and Sukkur question, as comprising among them the whole of those districts, which are valued at 3,95,324 rupees annually, by which, according to this arrangement, we should relinquish the whole of the pecuniary claims against the Upper Sinde Ameers, amounting to 7,00,000 rupees, on behalf of the late Shah Shooja, and 1,00,000 rupees annual tribute, which, with interest since February, 1839, when first due, would amount to 13,28,000 rupees; and 1,00,000 rupees of the tribute due by the Lower Sinde Ameers; there would then remain 2,50,000 rupees of annual tribute due by the Lower Sinde Ameers, for relinquishing which, I trust we should effect our further object, *i.e.*, the farm or purchase of Kurachee, and an arrangement for the constant supply of wood along both banks of the river; but those measures being unconnected with the Shikarpore question, will be treated of separately.

10. Should the Governor-General determine on appropriating the district of Sukkur alone, Memorandum D shews that villages, to the estimated value of 11,300 rupees annual revenue, belong to Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, and of 11,000 rupees to Meer Ali Moorad, the value of the whole being 22,300 rupees.

11. It is necessary that I should point out, however, that the entire forfeiture of Meer Nusseer Khan's (of Hyderabad) share of Shikarpore and Kurachee, and the assignment of his tribute to remunerate the other Ameers, from whom tribute is not due, for what they will be required to relinquish, would be called for, to enable you to carry out the remaining objects to be effected in Sinde, alluded to, setting aside the cession of Subzulkote to Bhawul Khan, which, perhaps, the Governor-General may think too severe a mulct, in addition to the above. And, at the same time, I must remind you, that for the protection of the Shikarpore district, a considerable cavalry force would be required for some time to come, to repress the raids of the Northern Hill Tribes, who will be let loose on the withdrawal of the Sinde horse beyond the desert, but we already possess good fortified positions at Khangur, Janedera, and

Rojhan for frontier posts, which, with another established at Gullama to keep the Muzzaries in check, would, I should suppose, enable the Sinde horse to answer every purpose, having its head-quarters at Shikarpore.

I have &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

Appendix C.

Memorandum as per Captain Postans' report on the Shikarpore Revenues for 1839, *dated 3rd of June,* 1841.

TOWN duties after deducting expenses . .	66,618 1	rupees
Averages of Town, for 1839 and 1840 . .	51,450	

District Revenues.

Lukkee	13,544	1	1½	Joint property of Hyderabad Ameers.
Ghoree Yasseen	6,316	11	0	
Kurrun	7,777	7	0	
Dulepore	13,158	2	0	
Five Villages of Noor Mahomed's	2,699	14	0	
Lodeh	465	0	0	
Narroo Boriah	134	4	0	
	44,095	7	1½	

Sole Property of Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

Gosarjee	15,698	11	0	In these are included the Mehal of Rooper, and two villages, joint property of Meer Nusseer and Khyrpore.
Moobarickpore	44,667	13	0	
	60,366	8	0	From this is to be deducted the Khyrpore portion of Rooper, and the two villages above alluded to.
Deduct expenses of Gosarjee ..	1,344	0	0	
	59,022	8	0	

Joint Property of Hyderabad and Khyrpore.

1. Name not given	9,499	6	
2. Khanpore	3,695	6	
	13,194	12	
Additional sources of revenue from certain villages, one-third the property of Meer Noor Mahomed.	2,522		To ascertain who derives the other two-thirds.
Revenue from Shikarpore gardens, and various taxes shared generally (after deducting expenses).	29,934		

Abstract.

Total of Nusseer Khan's property	60,670	12	
Ditto of Noor Mahomed's, now shared equally by his sons, Shahdad and Hoossein Ali.	98,638	7	
Ditto of Town	66,618	1	
	2,25,927	4	

This is from the Ameers' accounts furnished to Lieutenant Postans, which he estimates as exaggerated about one-third; but he considered that allowing one-fifth above what the Ameers really realized, it would be well worth two lacs to us.

J. OUTRAM.

Appendix D.

Detail of Shares of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, in the Pergunnas of Sukkur and Shikarpore, and their estimated value, from information collected from Soukars, and others, on whose testimony reliance can be placed:—

Sukkur Pergunna.

Names of the Villages belonging to Sukkur.	Names of Owners.	Estimated Revenue.	
Rahoojoo	Nusseer Khan	1,000	
Sukkur	Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore .	6,000	
Dareijah	,,	1,500	
Jaffeerabad	,,	1,000	
Nusseerabad	,,	1,000	
Kadirpore	,,	800	Nusseer Khan, Khyrpore, 11,300
Ali Waham	Meer Ali Moorad	2,000	
Batar	,,	2,500	
Molahan Kholasagee	,,	500	
Debee Aumil	,,	4,000	
Debee Abdoo Shah	,,	2,000	Ali Moorad, 11,000

Shikarpore Pergunna.

Names of the Villages belonging to Shikarpore.	Names of Owners.	Estimated Revenue.	
Mahomedabhag	Meer Ali Moorad	3,000	
Syud Dulwansh	,,	500	
Roopayee	,,	1,000	
Ardoo Tobjee	,,	700	
Meeanee	,,	1,500	
Bhujanjee	,,	6,000	
Shurgoo	,,	2,500	
Buckanjee	,,	600	
Guree Abdool Guree	,,	800	
Napur	{Nusseer Khan, 1,500 / Ali Moorad, 1,500}	3,000	{Ali Moorad 18,100 / Nusseer Khan, 1,500}
Dungra..	Ali Moorad	1,500	
Outee	,,	2,000	
Berkun..	,,	3,000	
Nassurbaojah	,,	3,000	
Gurree Abdoo Shah	{Ali Moorad 750 / Meer Roostum 750}	1,500	{Ali Moorad 10,250 / Meer Roostum 750}
Wuzeerabad	Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore.	3,500	
Dehee Tayab	,,	1,500	
Mustee..	,,	500	
Dehee Gumah..	,,	800	
Gurree Bodel	,,	3,000	
Mahowee	,,	7,000	Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, 16,300
Mali-i-buggy	,,	2,000	
Hobeed-ho-Kote	,,	5,000	
Kushmere	,,	3,000	
Kulwaree	,,	2,500	
Kajee Wahan	,,	4,000	
Jullee	,,	2,500	
Ourunjabad	,,	2,500	
Hallee	,,	500	
Tandah	,,	2,000	
Nowgate	,,	2,500	
Show Cullee	,,	500	
Sobajah	,,	1,500	
Pharee..	,,	2,000	
Jaffeer Khan Chandia	,,	800	

Names of the Villages belonging to Shikarpore.	Names of Owners.	Estimated value.	
Joomrah	Given to Kodir Buroosah by Nusseer Khan.	1,000	
Moobarickpore	Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore.	800	
Makey-ke-gaum	,,	1,500	
Goora-ke-gaum	,,	2,000	
Bayerjee	,,	2,500	
Noorsora	,,	500	
Touree	,,	400	
Fareed-ka-gaum	,,	500	
Shohoo-ka-gote	,,	700	
Amroot	,,	4,000	
Sahokjee	,,	1,500	
Tindah	,,	1,000	Nusseer Khan 47,700
Gooree	Meer Roostum	1,500	
Chuck	,,	8,000	Meer Roostum 9,500
Khanpore	½ Meer Nusseer Hyderabad ½ Meer Roostum.	12,000	Nusseer Khan Hyderabad, 6,000
Ghurree Soudut Khan ..	Meer Roostum	2,500	
Rustom-ka-gaum	,,	2,000	
Sydabad	,,	2,000	Meer Roostum 12,500
Arroojie	,,	2,500	
Tandra	,,	500	Meer Roostum 3,000 N. Khan Hyd. 3,000
Ghoh-i-Sooltan	½ Meer Nusseer Hyderabad ½ Meer Roostum	6,000	
Jahgan	Meer Roostum	500	Meer Roostum 4,350 N. Khan Hyd. 750
Janedera	½ Meer Nusseer Hyderabad ½ Meer Roostum	1,500	
Abad	Meer Roostum..	3,000	
Khongur	,,	6,000	Meer Roostum 4,000 N. Khan Hyd. 17,350
Bhigarree Nullah	Nusseer Khan Hyd. 17,350. Meer Roostum 8,675 ..	26,025	
Boordeekab	Meer Roostum	24,000	
Kabee Badanee	,,	4,500	Meer Roostum 37,175
Farrah-ka-gaum	Nusseer Khan Hyderabad.	700	
Wurgub-ka-gaum	,,	800	
Darabag-ka-gaum	,,	2,000	
Aubad-ka-gaum	,,	2,500	
Gosarjee	,,	6,000	
Tamushunee	,,	800	
Abad	,,	800	
Mudejee	,,	5,000	
Dupetpore	,,	2,000	
Hamayoan-ka-kote	,,	2,000	
Mowladad	,,	3,000	
Mya-ka-gote	,,	3,000	
Jaomegjah	,,	1,000	N. Khan, Hyd. 29,600
Gurree Yasseen Khan ..	Meer Shahdad	10,000	
Kurran	,,	5,000	
Kabee	,,	4,500	
Dedoh	,,	2,000	Shadad Khan 21,500
Lukkee	Meer Hoossein Ali	8,000	
Abdoo	,,	3,000	
Mooroo-ka-kote	,,	500	Hoossein Ali 11,500
Kassin-ka-gote	,,	1,000	
Jan Khan-ka-gote	,,	1,000	
Moobaruckpore	,,	2,500	
Meerpore	,,	4,000	Hoossein Ali 8,500
Saleganee	Meer Mahomed of Khyrpore	6,000	
Agah-ka-Wahan	,,	8,000	
Moonawaed	,,	1,800	
Adamjee	,,	1,500	
Hoossein Khan Ka Gurree ..	,,	1,500	

Names of the Villages belonging to Shikarpore.		Names of Owners.	Estimated value.	
Choodaka Gurree		½Meer Nusseer Hyderabad. ½Meer Mahomed of Khyrpore	2,000	M. Mah. Khy. 11,600 N. Khan, Hyd. 1,000
Buckejab		Meer Mahomed of Khyrpore.	500	
Wuckrah		„	400	
Murdoh		„	400	
Hameed-ka-gote		„	1,800	Meer Mahomed of Khyrpore 4,100
Shikarpore City..	2/7ths	Nusseer Khan Hyd. 25,714.	89,999	
	2/7	Meer Shahdad. . 12,857.		
		Hoossein Ali . . 12,857.		
	9/28	Roostum Khan . . 28,928.		
	9/28	Nusseer Khan Khyr. 9,643.		

Abstract.

	Rupees.
Meer Ali Moorad Khan	39,350
„ Nusseer Khan Khyrpore	84,943
„ Roostum Khan	1,03,203
„ Nusseer Khan Hyderabad	84,914
„ Shahdad Khan	34,357
„ Hoossein Ali Khan	32,857
„ Mahomed Khan Khyrpore	15,700
Rupees ..	3,95,324

Inclosure 36 in No. 379.

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October, 20, 1842.*

I HAVE the honor to place before you the correspondence which has passed relating to the pecuniary claims against the family of the late Meer Moobaruck of Khyrpore, which is a subject of importance calling for early consideration.

2. The amount claimed *i.e.*, seven lacs of rupees in behalf of Shah Shooja, and one lac annual tribute to the British Government, has been due since the 1st February, 1839, and, if computed with interest at six per cent. (at which the Hyderabad Ameers have been charged), up to the 1st February, 1843, would amount as follows:—

	Rupees
The debt on behalf of Shah Shooja	8,68,000
And tribute, to	4,60,000
	13,28,000

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 37 in No. 379.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *December 25, 1838.*

IT will be observed, that the Treaty is made out in the name of Meer Roostum Khan alone, which appeared to me eminently desirable, but which I did not accomplish without opposition and objections, which were, however, removed by my agreeing to give a document similar in import to what his

Lordship had already given at Hyderabad to the junior Ameers. To this I agreed, with the exception of Moobaruck Khan, whose open and undisguised hostility prevents my granting such a favour without his Lordship's orders; but on this subject I shall address you from Khyrpore, where I am now proceeding.

Inclosure 38 in No. 379.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary to the Government of India.

(Extract.) *Khyrpore, December* 28, 1838.

I WAS received here by Meer Roostum Khan with great consideration, and he expressed in warm and feeling language his determination of submission and obedience to the British Government. His Highness Meer Moobaruck Khan was also present, and his conduct I can only characterize as that of slavish obsequiousness. He threw his "loongee" before me (a sign of great humility), and implored the favour of the Governor-General. Meer Roostum Khan then asked me to prepare the separate agreements for the junior Ameers, in the same manner as his Lordship had granted at Hyderabad, to which I assented, saying, that such were of course part of the Governor-General's intentions, and that we could settle the point next day.

4. After the interview, the eldest son of Meer Moobaruck Khan waited upon me along with the Minister, the object of the visit being to do away, as far as possible, the impressions they knew me to have imbibed of Meer Moobaruck Khan's proceedings. I, however, told the son, that I considered his father's whole conduct so wanting in cordiality that I did not feel myself authorized to grant any separate agreement to him, for, if I did, I doubted if the Governor-General would ratify it. The announcement caused much consternation, and prolonged the interview to about two hours. The son appealed to me if Meer Moobaruck's people had not been actively engaged in making the road through Sinde; if his brothers were not now in the quarter by which the army was to march, attending to all my requisitions: I replied, that I could not change my sentiments.

5. This morning I visited Meer Roostum Khan, and found him with his younger brother, Ali Moorad Khan, but that Moobaruck was absent. The Ameer stated, at full length, his declaration of devotion; he said, that in giving up Bukkur to the British, he had to encounter great disgrace; that his tribe and his family were alike opposed to it, but that he was an old man, with but a few years to live, and it was to save his children and his tribe from ruin that he had, years ago, resolved on allying himself to us; that other invaders of India might be resisted, but that if one of our armies were swept away, we could send another, and that such power induced him alike to fear and rely upon us; that he was henceforward the obedient and submissive servant of the British, and hoped that I would avert all injury befalling him, and tell him, without hesitation, what he could do to please us. The answer to such declaration was plain: to give us orders for supplies, and place all the country, as far as he could, at our command; and he has done so, as far as he can.

6. The agreements being now called for, I produced those for Ali Moorad Khan and Meer Mahomed, and delivered them to Roostum Khan, saying, that they would only be granted if he desired it. It was the earnest wish of his heart, he said; but where is the agreement for Meer Moobaruck Khan? I here stated to his Highness my reasons for withholding such a document; that his brother had sowed all the doubts which had caused so much delay and vexation; that Colonel Pottinger in his correspondence had repeatedly stated the encouragement given to the Hyderabad Ameers by Moobaruck Khan's line of procedure; that I did not see how I could grant such an agreement to place such a person under our protection; and finally, if I did grant it, that I did not think that the Governor-General would ratify it.

7. Meer Roostum Khan seemed both concerned and alarmed at the statement; said that no sooner had the Khyrpore Ameers become our dependents, than we sought to divide them by making one a friend and another an enemy; that the Ameers of Hyderabad were young, and did not

adhere to truth in their statements about Moobaruck Khan, who acted entirely subordinate to him; and that it would be a calamity of the worst nature if I persisted in excluding Moobaruck Khan. I felt some difficulty in arguing this point face to face with the Ameer, but finally said, that the power had gone from me; that Colonel Pottinger's reports carried great weight; that I had first come to Khyrpore with the intention of befriending all, but the foe and the friend must be separated; that certainly I had no orders from the Governor-General to exclude Meer Moobaruck Khan, but my judgment pronounced him to have deeply erred, and I would desire to refer to your Lordship.

8. The Ameer now said that it would not be difficult to prove to Colonel Pottinger, that the Hyderabad Ameers had misrepresented Meer Moobaruck Khan; that I admitted the Governor-General had not excluded him; and that, therefore, I should give the agreement, and above all, as Meer Moobaruck Khan was his brother. There was no resisting such appeals, and I agreed to give the paper under this distinct declaration, that I was in no way to blame if his Lordship did not ratify it; that I could not promise it would be ratified; and on these terms I sent the document to Meer Roostum Khan after the audience terminated. The three agreements are inclosed, in Persian, and translations, for his Lordship's satisfaction.

9. My opinions are firm that this member of the Khyrpore family should be mulcted; and, as much will depend on what Colonel Pottinger's impressions are, of the evils which he thinks Meer Moobaruck has assisted in bringing about at Hyderabad, I would suggest that his Lordship await the Resident's sentiments on Meer Moobaruck Khan, before coming to a decision, and I shall of course send a copy of this dispatch to Colonel Pottinger.

Inclosure 39 in No. 379.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Dunowlah, January 16, 1839.*

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, with inclosures, under date the 28th ultimo; and, in reply, to express the full approbation of the Governor-General as to the line of conduct you have pursued in granting separate agreements to the junior Ameers of Khyrpore.

2. The agreements in question are returned herewith, duly ratified by the Governor-General, in duplicate, one copy of each of which, after obtaining the signature of the Ameers, you will return for record in this office.

3. Before, however, delivering to Meer Moobaruck Khan the paper intended for him, his Lordship is desirous that you should communicate personally with Mr. Macnaghten, whose advice and opinion it will be very expedient that you should in this instance avail yourself of.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

Inclosure 40 in No. 379.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Envoy at the Court of Shah Shooja.

(Extract.) *March 4, 1839.*

BUT I am at the same time desired to state that his Lordship is fully satisfied, from the reports both of that officer (Sir A. Burnes) and of Colonel Pottinger, that Meer Moobaruck has, by his unceasing hostility to British subjects, wholly deprived himself of claims to special consideration, and that his Lordship is, therefore, decidedly of opinion that that chief should be

required to contribute towards the payment, in the same proportion to his means, as has been acceded to by the three Ameers at Hyderabad, and that he should also be required to contribute to the expense of the British force, on which account each of those Ameers is to pay annually one lac of rupees.

Inclosure 41 in No. 379.

The Envoy and Minister at the Court of Shah Shooja to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Bagh, March* 24, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for your consideration, the accompanying letter to your address from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor-General, dated the 4th instant, together with its inclosure.

2. To enable me to comply with the desire expressed in the 2nd paragraph of Mr. Maddock's letter, I have to request that you will furnish me with your opinion of the means possessed by Meer Moobaruck Khan to meet the whole demand of seven lacs of rupees, and to pay annually the sum of one lac of rupees towards the maintenance of the British force in Sinde.

3. I should be further obliged by the communication of your sentiments as to the best mode of enforcing the immediate and prospective payments of Meer Moobaruck.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

Inclosure 42 in No. 379.

Sir A. Burnes to the Envoy at the Court of Shah Shooja.

Sir, *April* 12, 1839.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the duplicate of your letter of the 24th ultimo, (the original having miscarried,) calling on me to give my opinion and sentiments on the mode of carrying into effect the resolution of the Governor-General, announced in Mr. Maddock's letter of the 4th ultimo, to fix on Meer Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore, the entire quota of the money contribution by that principality.

Meer Moobaruck Khan is the second brother of Meer Roostum Khan. He holds a little less than one-third of the Khyrpore territories, is very miserly in his household, and universally reputed to have wealth in jewels and money. He is, therefore, certainly able to give a lac of rupees annually towards the payment of the British force; and he should be called on to pay down at once, while we are strong in Sinde, the sum of seven lacs of rupees. I speak with confidence of his ability to pay the lac annually, and also advisedly on his possessing considerable wealth to enable him to fulfil the demand of seven lacs.

3. The fertile territory lying between Subzulkote and Roree nearly all belongs to Moobaruck Khan, and includes the five villages and district of Ghotkee with Malodee, Choonga, Dadoola, and Uzeezpore. He has also estates in the neighbourhood of Khyrpore itself, and towards Hyderabad; but, besides this, Sukkur, and the country half-way between it and Shikarpore, as well as a share of that town, are his property; and these are close to the position of our troops, and can either be sequestrated *pro tempore*, or threatened to be so, to compel the Ameer to give in to our terms.

4. I beg respectfully to state my perfect coincidence in the determinations of the Governor-General on this subject, and I am sure that the British nation has no enemy more rancorous in Sinde than Meer Moobaruck Khan; and policy and justice alike call for his punishment: and the lessening of his power to do evil, by diminishing his resources, is that most suitable.

I have, &c.
A. BURNES.

Inclosure 43 in No. 379.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Lieutenant Eastwick, Political Agent Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Simla, June* 3, 1839.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 20th instant,* transmitting a translation of a memorandum addressed to Meer Roostum and Meer Moobaruck Khan, on the subject of the contribution from Khyrpore to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in consideration of his renouncing his claims of sovereignty over that portion of the territories of Sinde.

2. In reply, I am directed to inform you that, though the Governor-General might have been disposed in some degree to modify the terms of your requisition, yet considering the unsettled state of the country, and the risk of increasing the disposition to oppose the establishment of order under the control of officers of the British Government, the Governor-General thinks it was judicious to defer the demand which you were instructed to make on Meer Moobaruck Khan, and his Lordship would now leave the time and manner of following up your requisition to the discretion of the Political Officer on the spot, who will be the best judge how and when it should be made.

3. His Lordship observes that, in the 5th Article of your memorandum, you have avoided naming the sum which you were instructed in the first instance to demand from Meer Moobaruck Khan, and have intimated only that he will be required to pay a just portion of the general contribution of the Ameers of Sinde. This deviation from your instructions appears to his Lordship, to have been prudent under present circumstances; and he would be glad to learn at what amount the contribution may appear to you, after mature inquiry, to be fairly leviable.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

Inclosure 44 in No. 379.

The Envoy at the Court of Shah Shooja to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Cabool, May* 13, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to forward, for the consideration of the Governor-General in Council, the accompanying copy of a letter dated 21st ultimo, from the Political Assistant in charge of the Upper Sinde Agency.

2. In the 6th paragraph of my letter to your address under date the 5th of February last, I reported that I had paid to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk the sum of Rs. 5,02,287 7 3½ in gold, being a portion of the payment made by the Ameers of Sinde, and I would respectfully recommend that no deductions may be made for the amount due to His Majesty by the Ameers of Sinde, on account of advances which have been made to him by me from time to time, since the commencement of the campaign; but that, on payment being made by the Ameers of the entire sum due, I may be authorized to inform His Majesty, that the balance owing to him, which will amount to nearly eight lacs of rupees, is standing at his credit in the treasury of the Mission.

3. His Majesty will be under the necessity of incurring heavy expenses during the first year or two of his reign, but I should hope, if the above suggestion be acceded to, His Majesty will not need any further pecuniary aid from the British Government, on account of his personal disbursements, or on any other account than for the payment of his troops disciplined by British Officers.

I have, &c.,
W. H. MACNAGHTEN.

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* Sic in orig.

Inclosure 45 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, June* 8, 1840.

I AM directed by the Governor-General in Council, to forward to you the inclosed copy of a letter from the Envoy and Minister at the Court of Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk of the 13th ultimo, regarding the Shah's claim to the Sinde Nuzzeranah; and to request that you will state, for the information of his Lordship in Council, what has been done towards bringing to a close the negotiation with the heirs of Meer Moobaruck in Upper Sinde, for the payment of a sum on their part, with a view to obtain a complete release from all claims of supremacy which may still be urged by His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk. This subject was referred to you in August, last year, and you will observe that Sir William Macnaghten reckons on the receipt of the entire sum first proposed by Sir Henry Pottinger, namely, seven lacs of rupees.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

Inclosure 46 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *July* 4, 1840.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th ultimo, together with its inclosures.

2. Meer Moobaruck Khan died on the 19th July last. It is unnecessary to recapitulate the state of affairs to the westward of the Indus at that period, and I need only observe that we were not in a position to moot a question which might lead to open disaffection on the part of any of the Ameers of Sinde.

3. Subsequent to the return of the Bombay column under Major-General Willshire, I had an interview with Meer Roostum Khan, for the purpose of discussing the question regarding the subsidy (amounting to seven lacs) which had been demanded of Meer Moobaruck Khan, deceased. The heirs of that chief were present, and strongly represented their inability to pay the subsidy, and the injustice of claiming it after the cordial manner in which Meer Moobaruck had operated with Meer Roostum in forwarding the views of the British Government. They were strenuously supported in this position by Meer Roostum; and, as I was not authorized to discuss the grounds on which the subsidy had been originally demanded, or to propose a smaller amount than that fixed by the Governor-General, I confined myself to such arguments as I considered likely to induce their acquiescence in full, promising, at the same time, to lay before Government any application they might desire to make regarding the mode and terms of payment. After a great deal of conversation on the subject, they positively and finally declined to acknowledge their liability to be called on for payment of any portion of the subsidy which had been demanded of Meer Moobaruck.

4. Before addressing Government, I set on foot inquiries, with the view of ascertaining as far as possible in what manner the real and personal property of Meer Moobaruck had been divided amongst his heirs. Every difficulty was thrown in my way, both by them and by Meer Roostum Khan, and I failed in ascertaining the amount of treasure left by Meer Moobaruck, or the shares in which it had been disposed of.

The accompanying schedule*, however, contains a tolerably accurate statement of the manner in which the landed possessions of the Khyrpore family are distributed.

5. It remains for the Governor-General in Council to determine whether

* Forwarded in a separate envelope (No. 253). The preparation of this schedule occupied several months, and the information it contains was only thrown together a short time previous to the receipt of your letter now under acknowledgment. The family tree of the Khyrpore Ameers is also annexed.

the whole, or, if not, what portion, of the seven lacs shall be exacted of the heirs of Meer Moobaruck. I am not acquainted with the grounds on which the subsidy was fixed, and cannot therefore offer an opinion on the question. Should it be deemed proper to demand the whole amount specified, I would, with reference to the value of the possessions held by the different sons of Meer Moobaruck, recommend that the subsidy be distributed, as noted in the margin†, unless the younger sons can show that the whole or greater portion of Meer Moobaruck's treasure was inherited by Meer Nusseer Khan, in which case a larger proportion of the subsidy might be demanded of him.

I have, &c.,
R. BELL.

Inclosure 47 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, July* 27, 1840.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, under date the 4th instant, regarding the realization of the tribute from the heirs of the late Meer Moobaruck, and in reply, to state the following are the principles upon which a payment was arranged by the British Government as to be made by the Ameers of Sinde to Shah Shooja ool-Moolk, in connexion with the measures which have placed that Sovereign in possession of his ancient dominions in Affghanistan.

2. The claims of tribute by the Affghan monarchy upon the territory of Sinde had been formerly regularly enforced, and would of course have been revived by the Shah after the consolidation of his new power, if, through the intervention of the British Government, the Ameers had not been secured against demands, which they would probably have been without the means of effectually resisting. It became of manifest importance, therefore, to the interests of the Ameers, that this irritating and difficult question should not be left open. It formed accordingly a part of the arrangements concluded by Sir Henry Pottinger at Hyderabad, in the early part of 1839, that a payment, certainly of very moderate amount, relatively to the benefit obtained, should be made by the Ameers to the Shah, upon the completion of which a deed of release from all further demands was to be given by His Majesty under the British guarantee. The sum to be paid by the Ameers of Lower Sinde was fixed at twenty-one lacs of rupees, and the whole of this amount has now been made good; one of the Ameers, Meer Sobdar Khan, having been alone exempted from it, in consideration of the peculiar claims which his unshaken fidelity to his promises, at a period of much excitement, had established in his favour. The sum to be given by the Ameers of Khyrpore was named by Sir Henry Pottinger at seven lacs of rupees; thus bringing the entire payment for the guaranteed independence of the entire Sinde territory to twenty-eight lacs. In consequence of the good conduct of Meer Roostum Khan, especially in the cession of the fortress of Bukkur, Sir Alexander Burnes was authorized to assure that chief that a like indulgence should be extended to him as had been shewn to Meer Sobdar Khan; but the reports of that officer and of other British authorities in Upper Sinde teemed with statements of the hostility and counteraction of Meer Moobaruck Khan, and against that Ameer and his family the claim of the Shah has always remained clear and undiminished.

3. Upon the above grounds and principles it will be for you to consider what sum within the amount of seven lacs named by Sir Henry Pottinger, may be fairly demanded from the family of Meer Moobaruck, upon a consideration of their present means and expenses; and you are requested to

		Rupees.
† From	Meer Nusseer Khan	3,60,000
„	Meer Mahomed Ullur	1,60,000
„	Meer Fazil Mahomed	80,000
„	Meer Ali Mahomed	50,000
„	Meer Wallee Mahomed	50,000

give your early attention to this long-pending subject, and to bring it to a close with all practicable dispatch.

4. A copy of your letter and of this reply will be sent to Sir William Macnaghten, with whom you will communicate as to the transmission of the money or other details of the arrangements.

I have, &c.,
H. TORRENS.

Inclosure 48 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Shikarpore, January* 10, 1841.

WITH reference to Mr. Torrens' letter, dated the 27th of July last, I have the honor to report, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General of India in Council, that shortly after my return to Sukkur, I addressed his Highness Meer Nusseer Khan, requesting him to make arrangements with his brothers for liquidating the claim for seven lacs of rupees in favour of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which remained outstanding against Meer Moobaruck Khan at the time of his death. After some correspondence, copies and translations of which are herewith transmitted, I discussed the subject with Meer Roostum Khan on the 23rd of December last. He stated that Sir Alexander Burnes had promised Meer Moobaruck, and given him a written document, which he shewed me in original to the same effect, that no demand should be made on him. As the paper in question may possibly not have been laid before Government, I consented, at the request of his Highness, to submit it in the first instance along with any letter which he might think proper to address to me on the subject, for the consideration and orders of the Governor-General of India in Council, in order that there might be no risk of in any manner compromising Sir Alexander Burnes. The documents appended, marked 10 and 11, are translations of Meer Roostum's letter on the subject, and its inclosures.*

In the event of his Lordship in Council deciding that the last mentioned document shall be set aside, and of Meer Moobaruck's sons refusing to pay the amount demanded, I solicit instructions as to whether the demand shall be enforced by a threat of taking possession, and if necessary, by doing so, of lands held by Meer Nusseer Khan and his brothers.

I have &c.,
R. BELL.

P. S.—Copies of this letter and inclosures will be forwarded by me to Sir Alexander Burnes for any remarks he may consider it necessary to lay before Government, on the subject of Meer Roostum Khan's last reference.

Inclosure 49 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Upper Sinde to Sir A. Burnes.

Sir, *Camp, Shikarpore, January* 16, 1841.

I HAVE the honor to forward for your information a copy of a letter, and its inclosures, addressed by me on the 10th instant to the Secretary to the Government of India, relative to the claim of seven lacs made against the late Meer Moobaruck Khan of Khyrpore, with a view to your forwarding to Government such remarks as you may conceive the case to require.

I have, &c.,
R. BELL.

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* See No.

Inclosure 50 in No. 379.

Sir A. Burnes to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Cabool, February* 4, 1841.

I DO myself the honor, in reply to your letter of the 16th ultimo, to transmit a copy of my despatch of this date to Mr. Maddock, regarding the claims to exemption set up by the heirs of Meer Moobaruck Khan, from which you will perceive that they are wholly without foundation, and that in addition to the sum of seven lacs of rupees, the Governor-General of India has even decided that they should pay annually one lac of rupees in the same manner as the Ameers of Lower Sinde.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

Inclosure 51 in No. 379.

Sir A. Burnes to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Cabool, February* 4, 1841.

MR. ROSS BELL, the Political Agent in Upper Sinde, has transmitted to me a copy of his dispatch of the 10th ultimo, to your address, regarding the claim to exemption of Meer Moobaruck's family from payment of seven lacs of rupees due by them, with a request that I would furnish to you such remarks as I might consider necessary.

2. Instead of renewing this subject and writing a fresh report on the same, it will be more satisfactory to extract from the records all that relates to it and which passed at the time. I forward, therefore, documents Nos. 1 to 5, which will show the utter groundlessness of any claims set up by the heirs of Meer Moobaruck Khan to be released from this demand.

3. As to the written document under my seal (No. 11 of Mr. Bell's inclosures to his dispatch), on which Meer Moobaruck's family seek a release from this claim, his Lordship in Council will see, in my letter of the 28th December, the conditions under which it was granted, that these were sustained in Mr. Torrens' letter dated the 16th January, 1839, and that, while on that letter I gave to all the junior Ameers of Khyrpore the separate agreements, I refused to give that of Meer Moobaruck Khan, which now lies unratified on the table before me, though solicited to do so by Meer Roostum and his Minister for days, nay, weeks, previous to my quitting Sinde. In addition to this, it will be seen that Sir William Macnaghten and myself had a correspondence on the best mode of enforcing the claim while on our advance to Candahar; and the particulars there given may now prove of some service to Mr. Bell.

4. While there is not the remotest chance, therefore, of compromising me, the Government will further have no reason to regard, with an eye more favourable, the heirs of, than it did, the late Meer Moobaruck; for Nusseer Khan, the eldest son, not only did not join his Highness Meer Roostum Khan in his cordial alliance with us, but, at Shikarpore and Gotkee, threw obstacles to the approach of the army, and absolutely compelled me to pay to him 300 rupees for the use of a well near Shikarpore, and before he would allow me to deepen it. I need not further state that the individual in question, has no paper under my hand "to the effect that no demand should be made on heirs." The provisional agreement he of course has, and the only mention in it, as in all those papers, runs to the effect that,

"The said Company further agrees to preserve the same friendly relation towards the said Meer Moobaruck Khan, and his descendants, &c." This, however, was not recommended to be ratified by the Envoy who made the Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan, was not ratified by Government, and is therefore without value.

5. I shall forward a copy of this letter to Mr. Ross Bell, in reply to his communications.

I have, &c.,
A. BURNES.

Inclosure 52 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Fort Willium, February* 8, 1841.

IN acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 10th ultimo, on the subject of the demand against Meer Nusseer Khan to contribute his quota to the sum paid by the Ameers of Sinde to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, in acquittance of His Majesty's claims on the sovereignty of that country and the fealty of its princes, I am directed to state that, in discussing this question with Meer Nusseer Khan, you would appear to have lost sight of the distinction which is to be drawn between this demand and that of payment to the British Government of a military contribution which was exacted from three of the Ameers of Hyderabad. The engagement of Sir A. Burnes may be held to exempt Meer Moobaruck and his heirs from contributing to that fund; but it leaves the claims of the Affghan Monarch exactly as they were, and till these claims are compromised, Nusseer Khan lies under the liability which they imply, and which was acknowledged by the Hyderabad Ameers when they agreed to that Article of the Treaty which fixed the amount they were to pay in satisfaction of Shah Shooja's claims.

2. You will, upon your return to Sukkur, take a favourable opportunity of explaining to Meer Nusseer Khan that the express guarantee of the integrity and independence of his dominions, as granted to the other Ameers, cannot be extended to him, till he has followed the example of the Ameers of Hyderabad, and that Sir A. Burnes' engagement has no connexion with this question.

3. It is of importance that all the chiefs, with territory along the banks of the Indus, should be brought within the operation of this guarantee, and his Lordship in Council trusts to your so guiding your measures for the object, as that this portion of the Khyrpore family shall not remain an exception to that avowed dependence on the British Government alone, which has been secured to the Ameers of Hyderabad and to the family of Meer Roostum Khan.

I have &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

Inclosure 53 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Upper Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, March* 15, 1841.

WITH reference to Sir A. Burnes' letter to my address, of the 4th ultimo, submitting his remarks on the demand against Meer Moobaruck's family, a copy of which has been furnished to you, I am directed to state, that the Governor-General in Council was before satisfied of the futility of the claim set up by Meer Nusseer Khan, and trusts that, on receiving the document furnished to you by Sir A. Burnes, and my letter of the 8th idem, you will only await the first favourable opportunity to renew the discussion with Meer Nusseer Khan in order to bring the negotiation with that chief to an early and satisfactory issue.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

Inclosure 54 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary to the Government of India.

Sir, *Camp, Dadur, November* 26, 1841.

WITH reference to your letter of the 15th March last, to the address of the late Mr. Ross Bell, conveying the instructions of the Governor-General of India in Council, that the first favourable opportunity should be taken of discussing with Meer Nusseer Khan, as to the measures to be adopted in bringing the negotiations with that chief, relative to the payment of the tribute from the heirs of the late Meer Moobaruck Khan, to His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, to an early and satisfactory issue; and as it may be in my power ere long, by visiting Sukkur, to carry the same into effect, it is necessary that I should make the following remarks, and to request the instructions of his Lordship in Council thereon. Upon reference to the correspondence in this office on the subject, it appears that the claim against the late Meer Moobaruck Khan formed part of an agreement concluded between Sir H. Pottinger at Hyderabad, in the early part of 1839. The late Meer Moobaruck Khan died on the 19th of July, of that year; and it was not, therefore, until the beginning of last year that the subject, as a claim against the heirs of that chief, was brought forward in the presence of Meer Roostum Khan; when, after much discussion, it appears that the heirs strongly represented their inability to pay the subsidy; and, finally, positively declined to acknowledge their liability to be called on for the settlement of the same. It appears that on the return from Simla of the late Political Agent, the subject was, agreeably to the orders of Government, again brought to the notice of the Khyrpore Durbar, and that Meer Nusseer Khan was requested to make arrangements with his brothers for liquidating the claim for seven lacs of rupees, in favor of His Majesty Shah Shooja-ool-Moolk, which remained outstanding against Meer Moobaruck Khan at the time of his death. Subsequently, on the 23rd of December last, the subject was again discussed with Meer Roostum Khan, who declared that Sir Alexander Burnes had promised Meer Moobaruck, and given him a written document to the same effect, that no demand should be made on him. This excuse, after reference to Sir Alexander Burnes, has been declared by his Lordship in Council to be *futile*, and instructions have been received to inforce the claim against the heirs. It consequently remains for me to prosecute the claim; which, however, I see little prospect of being yielded; and I beg leave to solicit his Lordship's instructions as to what course is to be pursued in that case; whether any, and what, portion might be relinquished on payment of the remainder; whether any, and what, period might be granted for liquidating the amount; or, in the event of no satisfactory arrangement being made, what penalty should be held out, and how that penalty should be enforced. The simplest mode of settling the matter in the latter case, appears to me, is to attach the estates of Meer Moobaruck's heirs in the Shikarpore districts, until the amount is realized therefrom; and I think it would be highly advantageous were the Ameer, by that step induced to compromise, to receive, in lieu of money payment, such portion of the estates as are considered equivalent in value to the amount, and are so intermixed with those of the Ameers of Hyderabad made over to the British Government, as would render their annexation the most convenient.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Inclosure 55 in No. 379.

The Secretary to the Government of India to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Fort William, December* 20, 1841.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, on the subject of the claim of Shah Shooja for a subsidy against the heirs of the late Moobaruck Khan, with your suggestions as to the most fitting mode of settling the claim; and, in reply, to inform you that, in the opinion of the Governor-General in Council, the Khyrpore family can have no pretension to

be exempted from the payment of the same amount of contribution to Shah Shooja, in lieu of his rights of sovereignty over their estates, which was held to be due from the late Moobaruck Khan. But the present may not be the most favourable period for pressing this demand, and his Lordship in Council would not, therefore, insist upon a settlement at the present moment, though he sees no objection to your agitating the claim, so far as to prevent its becoming dormant; and, with this view, you may properly set forth, on every suitable occasion, that the title of the family to their present possessions, under the protection of the British Government, cannot be held as admitted, until they have complied with the condition on which that protection has been extended to the other Ameers of Sinde.

2. His Lordship in Council is not prepared at present to sanction the attachment of a portion of Nusseer Khan's lands in Shikarpore as a mode of composition of this claim.

I have &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

Inclosure 56 in No. 379.

The Political Agent in Sinde to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, April* 21, 1842.

10. ANOTHER question of great importance, as regards our relations with the Khyrpore Ameers, remains to be submitted for the orders of his Lordship, *i. e.*, the pecuniary claims of Shah Shooja, and tribute to the British Government, which it has been decided that the family of the late Meer Moobaruck Khan shall not be exempted from. To save time, and for the convenience of reference, I transmit copies of the correspondence which has passed on this subject (Appendix G); and with reference thereto I beg to be favoured with instructions on the following points:—1st. What portion of the seven lacs claimed on behalf of Shah Shooja shall finally be insisted on from the heirs of Meer Moobaruck Khan? 2nd. In the event of non-compliance, how to be enforced? On which points I most respectfully beg to offer the following suggestions: *i. e.*, That probably about one-third of the seven lacs which had been assigned to the whole Khyrpore family might fairly be exacted from the sons of Meer Moobaruck, on the assumption that he enjoyed about an equal share of the Khyrpore possessions with his brothers, Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Ali Moorad, to which is to be added tribute due since February, 1840, (as paid by the Hyderabad Ameers,) which appears to have been fixed at one lac of rupees annually.

11. How the arrears due are to be enforced and future payments secured is next to be considered. I would recommend, in the event of non-compliance with our demands, that Sukkur and the adjoining estates of Meer Nusseer Khan, which extend to near half-way to Shikarpore, be attached, and their produce appropriated in liquidation of the arrears, and, ultimately, with consent of the Ameer, farmed in perpetuity by the British Government, in lieu of the annual tribute, (or such portion as may be considered a fair equivalent,) the levying of which must be a source of discontent to Meer Nusseer Khan and his brothers, while the other Ameers are exempted. This, with the Hyderabad shares of Shikarpore, would place us in possession of nearly the whole of the rich tracts extending from the Indus to the Desert, which are watered by the Biggaree and Sinde canals; and the small portions still remaining to the other Khyrpore Ameers might afterwards be purchased.

12. The advantages of thus becoming sole proprietors of the whole district would prove as great, politically, as they undoubtedly would pecuniarily: no longer would it be in the power of the Sinde Government to disturb us in this quarter and involve us in warfare with the inhabitants as now they can do at pleasure, by underhand intrigues and without committing themselves. We should then be as secure in this position as in any possession in India; but, should we relinquish our views on Shikarpore, then would it be, I conceive, the more necessary to possess as British property the ground occupied by this cantonment, and the adjoining site of ancient Sukkur, that

we may be rendered independent of Shikarpore altogether, and enabled to afford a refuge to the Hindoo and mercantile classes, who, in such case would, to a man, desert Shikarpore for British protection at Sukkur. Thus within a single year a city would be established at this place, greater than Shikarpore, and which must continue rapidly to increase in extent and riches, under the advantage of our protection, and its site on the Indus, (more favourable in that respect than Shikarpore.)

13. Annexed is a memorandum shewing the possessions of Meer Nusseer Khan and the other sons of Meer Moobaruck, within the Sukkur and Shikarpore districts, extracted from a schedule displaying the whole of the Khyrpore possessions, which was compiled under the direction of Mr. Bell, estimating the entire share of Meer Moobaruck's family at 45,000 rupees annually. This is, however, I have reason to believe, under the real valuation, and, at any rate, under proper management its value can be much increased.

14. The circumstances of now supporting Meer Ali Moorad's interests, to whom we are allied by treaty, where opposed to Meer Nusseer's, who possesses no treaty, will render the latter more ready to enter into any arrangement which will secure his possessions by treaty, for the settlement of the pecuniary claims of the British Government against him; in the mean time, while we allow no aggression on Ali Moorad's territory, which we are bound by treaty to protect, we would refuse to interfere, should that of Meer Nusseer Khan be infringed, so long as he continues without our pledge by treaty, in consequence of not settling our claims; although at the same time we do not abstain from enforcing what we deem our just demands, by attaching the estates of Meer Moobaruck's family in the Sukkur and Shikarpore pergunnas.

15. It may not, however, be advisable to have immediate recourse to such stringent measures, the adoption of which should be dependent on a favourable opportunity, probably when our troops are about to return from above the passes: in the mean time, I may perhaps, be instructed to agitate the claim, so far as to prevent its becoming dormant, as sanctioned by your dispatch, dated 20th December last, but I have not yet entered on the subject, and probably the most suitable time for doing so, may be when I convey to the Ameers his Lordship's decision on the present appeal.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

Number and estimated value of villages in the possession of Meer Nusseer Khan and his brothers of Khyrpore, on the west bank of the Indus in the Shikarpore and Sukkur Pergunnas.

Sukkur.—Estimated at 6,500 rupees, including the grounds occupied by cantonments.

Roharja.
Jaffeerabad.
Nusseerabad.
Kadirpore.
Ali Waham.
½ Meeanee.
½ Ghoree Aboo Shah.
Wuzeerabad.
Dib Teyah.
Mustovee.
Dehi Juma.
Got-i-Hahib Make.
Cazee Waham.
Thalaluree.
Jalee.
Marne.
Aurungabad.
Hatie.
Tindah.
Butch.
Bhanna.
Moobaruckpore.
Nowgate.
Shah Killee.
Sahaije.
Tuidra Behar.
Gool Guffoor Khan Chundee.

Estimated value, 26,000 rupees.

One-third of the Khyrpore share of the Shikarpore city belongs to Meer Nusseer Khan and may be calculated at Company's rupees 12,500 annually.

Total rupees, 45,000, the estimated revenue of the heirs of Meer Moobaruck in the Sukkur and Shikarpore districts; but this is supposed to be under their real value.

Inclosure 57 in No. 379.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to the Political Agent in Sinde.

Sir, *Allahabad, May* 10, 1842.

THE Governor-General directs me to acquaint you that he sees no sufficient reason for reversing the decision given by Mr. Ross Bell, in favour of Meer Ali Moorad, in the dispute between him and Meer Nusseer Khan, as to the right to certain villages; and you are authorized to carry into effect Mr. Ross Bell's decision, whenever it may become necessary, or appear to be prudent, to declare the adhesion of the British Government to that decision; the period of promulgating the adhesion thereto (of the British Government) is left to your discretion.

2. The recent practice amongst the Ameers of Khyrpore, appearing to be in favour of Meer Ali Moorad's succession to the Turban, upon the death of Meer Roostum, in preference to the elder son of Meer Roostum, and to Meer Nusseer, the eldest son of the late Meer Moobaruck, although Meer Roostum and Meer Moobaruck are the elder brothers of Meer Ali Moorad; and it appearing likewise that that course of descent is prevalent amongst the Beloochees, the Governor-General would, as at present advised, be willing to acknowledge the succession of Meer Ali Moorad, if the necessity for the immediate acknowledgment of some successor to Meer Roostum should suddenly occur.

3. At the same time, his Lordship, desirous of the prosperity and future tranquillity of the State of Khyrpore, cannot but regret the existence in that State of a course of descent so unreasonable, and calculated to produce so much conflict in the Khyrpore family.

4. Under present circumstances, the Governor-General's only wish is to secure quiet, if he cannot obtain much active aid, in the rear of the troops advanced above the passes; and his Lordship would consider it a most objectionable time for pressing upon Meer Nusseer Khan, pecuniary payments to be made on account of his late father Meer Moobaruck, payments which the Government has so long refrained from enforcing.

5. On the contrary, the Governor-General is of opinion, that should it be necessary to communicate to Meer Nusseer Khan, before the troops are below the passes, the adhesion of the British Government to the decision of Mr. Ross Bell, with respect to the disputed villages, it would be very advisable to alleviate the unfavourable impression which that decision would make upon Meer Nusseer Khan, by holding out to him the expectation, that the British Government may relax its demands on account of the sums claimed as due by the late Meer Moobaruck.

6. You will not enter into any negotiation for the payment of any sum on account of such claim, or for the commutation of the whole, or any part thereof, for a cession of territory, without specific instructions to that effect.

I have, &c.,

T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 380.

Sir C. Napier to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 31, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to forward the accompanying papers, for the information of his Lordship.

The Ameers are nervous, and these ebullitions are the result. I much

doubt whether they will venture to oppose any of his Lordship's arrangements.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 381.

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Sukkur, October* 30, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to place before you the translation of a letter and treaty written in a Koran, which was yesterday intercepted, marked A, the former bearing the seal of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, and addressed to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad; and the written agreement in the Koran, also bearing the seal of Meer Roostum, and purporting to be a return pledge for a similar treaty previously received by him from Meer Nusseer Khan.

2 As these documents were obtained through a party interested in Meer Ali Moorad's favour, they should be viewed with suspicion, as it is the interest of the latter to place the other Ameers of Khyrpore at enmity with the British Government, as well to gratify revengeful feelings, as to secure our preference to his claims to the principal chieftainship of Upper Sinde on the demise of Meer Roostum Khan, which claims I submitted to the Governor-General, on the 21st of April last, who was disposed, under the circumstances represented by me, to entertain them favourably, but which I have not yet thought it expedient to make known to either party. This case I had the honor to submit to you with my letter dated the 21st instant.

3. As it seems that Meer Ali Moorad is better adapted to rule efficiently than any of the other Ameers after Meer Roostum's demise, and that it is obviously our interest to establish an effective Government, and moreover, that the customs of the tribe admit of the elder brother, Ali Moorad, assuming the turban as rightfully as the sons of Meer Roostum Khan, who are not so efficient, these documents may be useful, should they prove genuine, to set aside the claims of the latter for ever, which otherwise might embarrass you hereafter, if sufficient proof has not already been afforded, of the inimical proceedings of late of Meer Roostum Khan and his family; they are a further evidence, also, of Meer Nusseer Khan's (of Hyderabad) hostile feelings, although their tendency is rather of a defensive than offensive nature; and I consider that, however the parties may bluster, they have no serious intention of proceeding to hostilities.

4. To all appearance the documents are genuine, and the accompanying intelligence, marked B, received through a totally different channel, which is not likely to have any collusion with Meer Ali Moorad's agent, confirms the fact of an interchange of Korans between Meer Roostum and Nusseer Khan; and the circumstance of the seals of the other Ameers, mentioned by this informant, not being attached, as he represented, tends to prove that there is no collusion, and that Major Clibborn's informant had obtained correct information of the receipt and dispatch of the Korans, but had had no access to them, which, indeed, it is not likely he could have obtained.

I have, &c.,
J. OUTRAM.

A

No. 382.

Meer Roostum Khan to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

October 21, 1842.

I HAVE received your friendly letter, together with the Koran, in which was written the agreement, bearing your seal, relative to war and peace, as it

might happen, with the British, Sikhs, and others; they came safely to hand, by Mahomed Khan Talpoor and Moolla Buchal, your confidential messengers, the purport being that I was to accept and approve of the Koran (containing the written compact), and to send you one in return; they also gave me your verbal message, and I was much pleased. My friend, I first of all thought of this matter, that you and I should enter into a firm compact, and I was well aware, from the beginning, of the customs of this tribe of Feringhees, that one day or other they would cause affliction to you or myself. Thanks be to God, that you have first given attention to this matter, and I have accepted your Koran, and the agreement therein written, with all my heart (head and eyes). I now send you in return my Koran (bearing my seal), with a written compact, in conformity to the spirit of yours (bearing your seal), and have given it in charge to your trusty servant Mahomed Khan Talpoor, and beg that you will accept of the same. My bounteous friend, I have weighed the matter well, and consider that it is the intention of this tribe of Feringhees to act hostilely towards you, and I no longer place any confidence in their judgment. You well know how you are situated with regard to some of your brothers and mine—whose names it is unnecessary to mention; it would be as well, therefore, not to place dependence upon them, but to exert yourself in entertaining Sepoys, and men of the Belooch tribe. Now is the time, whatever it may cost, in collecting troops and assembling the tribes, you are not to reckon, but to consider it as a propitiatory offering for the preservation of your head; and do not consider this a light matter, but think of the consequences. If it should turn out that you are attacked, without failure, I will come to your aid, with all my tribe and Sepoys, and I expect that you will act to your written agreement and promises—impossible to be broken; on the other hand, should I be attacked by this tribe, you are to assist me, according to the terms of the agreement. And, with regard to the giving over of Shikarpore, you are to reject the demand, and, for the sake of God and the Prophet, not to give up any territory to the Feringhees; should you do so, without doubt, my lands, which are on that side of the river, will not escape. I rely entirely upon you; there is life in what men say. You are, therefore, to render me your aid, and on no account to separate your interests from mine. And, regarding what your vakeels wished, that I should send you a treaty, bearing the seals of my brothers, sons, and nephews, my friend, the compact we have entered into is sufficient; but, to satisfy your vakeel, I have caused Meer Mahomed Hoossein, and Nusseer Khan, to affix their seals to an agreement written in a Koran, and have shewn it to your vakeels; it, therefore, behoves you to draw up a similar agreement—bearing your own and your son's seal—and send it to any of my sons or nephews, and I will immediately return the one I have executed. Moolla Buchal will remain here until your Koran arrives. I will then give over charge of my Koran to him. Act with celerity in this matter.

No. 383.

Proposed agreement between Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan.

MEER ROOSTUM KHAN Talpoor, Chief of Khyrpore, agrees to enter into an agreement, along with Meer Nusseer Khan, the Chief of Hyderabad, to this effect, that he, Meer Roostum, and Meer Nusseer Khan, will act together in every affair, whether for good or evil, peace or war; whether it may be against other chiefs, or brothers, or other rulers, in these matters we will be united; the enemies of one party will be the enemies of both; and, in like manner, the friends of one side will be the friends of both. If Meer Nusseer Khan should be opposed by his brothers of Hyderabad, or any chiefs or rulers, but especially by the British (Feringhees), I, Meer Roostum, will, without hesitation, come to his assistance with my brothers, sons, and the whole tribe. If it should so happen, that the British should wage war with me, then it behoves Meer Nusseer Khan, according to his agreement on this head, to be my companion and render his aid according to the terms lately written by him in the Koran just come to hand. On this side there will be no drawing back. I, Meer Roostum, will have no regard for life or death, prosperity

or ruin, but will join Meer Nusseer with all my forces, without any dread of the consequences; and if the English should endeavour to detach me by specious pretences, and make war against Meer Nusseer Khan, I will never allow myself to be ensnared; nor will I give up the confederacy entered into with Meer Nusseer Khan. And if the Sikhs should attack either of the present contracting parties (Meer Roostûm and Meer Nusseer Khan); we will act in concert; in this treaty or compact, there shall not be the difference of a hair; if I depart from it in the slightest degree then will I give up my religion, and the faith of Islam.

(The Seal* of Meer Roostum Khan)
Talpoor.)

[In Meer Roostum's own hand-writing, to the best of my judgment and belief.]

B.

No. 384.

Items of intelligence received by Major Clibborn.

Sukkur, October 26, 1841.

MAHOMED KHAN TALPOOR'S nephew, by name Gholam Mahomed, has arrived from Hyderabad. He is the bearer of a Koran bearing the seals of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, Meer Nusseer's son, also of Meer Shahdad and Meer Hoossein Ali: above these seals, and in Meer Nusseer's handwriting, is a treaty, offensive and defensive, to which Meer Roostum and the Ameers of Khyrpore are invited to subscribe, binding themselves to assist each other, heart and soul, in resisting any encroachment of the English. This Koran has been placed in Meer Roostum's Tosha-khana; and Meer Roostum's Koran, with writing to a similar effect, with the seals attached of Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Ali Murdan, has been intrusted to the above confidential person, Gholam Ali, who has returned to Hyderabad to deliver it to Meer Nusseer Khan.

Mahomed Khan Talpoor has gone to Luckmai-ke-gaum for two days, from thence to depart for Larkhana, for the purpose of putting all the fighting men in a state of preparation for any sudden call that may be made for their services; thence it is his intention to return by Shikarpore, where a son of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree is to meet him.

Sukkur, October 27, 1842.

Jeyt Mull, who, I mentioned, had gone into Khyrpore from Shikarpore, for the purpose of consulting with Mahomed Khan Talpoor, received instructions to get in the revenue as quickly as possible, and forward it to Hyderabad; moreover, that he was to exercise his authority to the utmost as the Nawab of Shikarpore; that he would be supported in whatever course he might choose to take, and that such were Meer Nusseer Khan's (of Hyderabad) orders. Jeyt Mull stated, that Jeyt Sing and Chutroo Mull were entirely in the English interests, and that, in case of his punishing any person, an appeal was instantly made to the Agency; in consequence of this interference he found it a very difficult situation at Shikarpore. Mahomed Khan desired him to pay no attention to any one's wishes or orders but Meer Nusseer Khan's; to send him daily reports of what occurred at Shikarpore, and that he was going to Larkhana, to raise the fighting men in that direction, and not to care, or be alarmed at any thing the English might do; that in the course of eighteen days, he himself would be in Shikarpore, and in the mean time, he was to

* This seal has been carefully compared with one stamped on a letter received this day (Oct. 30, 1842) from Meer Roostum, and it was found to correspond exactly.

keep a vigilant eye upon Jeyt Sing and Chutroo Mull, whom, on his arrival, he intended to call to a serious account for past conduct towards Meer Nusseer Khan. Among themselves the Ameers talk in a most arrogant strain; and, in any negotiations, they intend to adopt a similar bearing, saying that if they carry their heads lowly, the General will soon be riding across their shoulders.

Sukkur, October 28, 1842.

Futteh Mahomed Ghoree has advised Meer Roostum to send a perwannah desiring the presence of Jeyt Sing and Chutroo Mull at Roree, where he will meet them, and he expects, through their influence with the authorities at Sukkur, to obtain an interview with the General.

Bhadoor Ali Shah has written to the Ameers in Khyrpore, to be of good cheer; that the whole of the English force, with the exception of two regiments, was about to retire from Upper Sinde; and also that Major Outram, Lieutenant Brown, &c., were to leave shortly, after which he should certainly gain admittance to the Agency, that orders had come from Calcutta to abolish the Collectorate and the dawks. This was passed on to Hyderabad, by Hurkaru camel, yesterday evening 6 p.m.

Meer Roostum yesterday received a letter from Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, that it was the intention of the English to demand the port of Kurachee, and the city and territory in the vicinity of Shikarpore; he, therefore, reiterated his former counsels, that, in case of Shikarpore being threatened, he was instantly to direct Mahomed Khan Talpoor's force in the neighbourhood of Larkhana to repair to Shikarpore. "Whenever it is required it will be ready;" and, in the event of anything being said about Kurachee, Meer Nusseer Khan adds, "I will see to it; we obtained the country by the sword, and, if it is to pass from us, it shall not do so without the sword."

No. 385.

Intelligence from Sinde, October 30 *to November* 6, 1842.

I NOTE the daily intelligence I have received during the past week, as displaying the temper of the chiefs under the alarm caused by the suspicious appearance of the troops delaying here; all their measures and preparations, however, are merely defensive, and will lead to nothing offensive I consider.

October 30th. The day before yesterday another attempt was made to induce Meer Ali Moorad to join in the Councils at Khyrpore, and by advice of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, Syud Baran Ali Shah was deputed to Dejee-ka-kote to invite him to Khyrpore. Meer Ali Moorad declined the invitation, but sent his confidential servant, Hussoo Khidmutgar. On this person appearing in the Durbar, Meer Roostum explained to him the folly of Ali Moorad's keeping aloof, and, by his disunion, weakening the power of the Talpoors; and, by way of intimidation, he added that he had positive information through Roopchund, the son of Chuttroo Mull, that it was the General's intention to proceed against the Fort of Dejee in the first instance, and, as proof of this, a letter written by Bhadoor Ali Shah, was produced to the same effect. Hussoo replied that "the Sahib Logue have already seen the Fort of Dejee. The General may wish to do so also; the seeing it is one thing, but the taking it quite a different affair. The latter rests with Providence; as Mehrab Khan yielded his Fort of Kelat only with his life, in like manner alone will my master yield his fort of Dejee to any party. Ali Moorad has instructed me to say "that if you cannot remain on terms of friendship and harmony of interests even for a few days with your sons Mahomed Hoossein and Ali Akhbar, and your nephews Meer Mahomed Khan and Meer Zungee, &c., what chance or hope is there for your keeping faith with him beyond the mere exigency of the times. Your councillors Meer Nusseer Khan and Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, are bad and faithless. I have

your korans with seals attached, if these have not been found binding with you, why should I expect that your *vivâ voce* declarations will be more so. I would rather trust to the professions of the English, and can place more reliance on their word."

October 31st. Roopchund, Chuttroo Mull's son, in writing to his agent in Khyrpore, mentions that the English force will not be withdrawn from this country until the General has come to some settlement with the Ameers with respect to a cession of part of it; part of the force will cross to Roree under pretence of returning to the provinces, but its departure will be delayed till the above settlement takes place. This letter was taken by the Agent at Khyrpore, named Moolchund, to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, who had the contents read to Meer Roostum, and a messenger was immediately sent off to Meer Nusseer Khan, at Hyderabad, at the instigation of Nusseer Khan and Futteh Mahomed, who represented that, in the course of ten or twelve days, the English would certainly demand an interview, and it was now indispensable that the Ameers should make their arrangements, and be prepared; if it was Nusseer Khan's advice that the whole of the fighting men should be called into Khyrpore, his advice should be followed. Confidential persons have been sent to Mahomed Hoossein to delay his departure from Mungulwallee, six coss from Khyrpore, and also to invite back Meer Ali Akhbar.

November 1. The evening before last (30th October), doubtless from some message conveyed by Hussoo, his Khidmutgar, Meer Ali Moorad arrived suddenly at Khyrpore from Dejee-ka-kote: Futteh Mahomed Ghoree went out part of the way to meet him and accompanied him to Meer Roostum Khan's quarters where a consultation was held—present Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Ali Moorad Khan, Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Ali Murdan, Mahabut Khan Murree, Futteh Mahomed Khan Ghoree. Meer Roostum addressed himself to Meer Ali Moorad saying: "Hitherto we have been engaged in family dissensions, one brother at enmity with the other and disunion prevailing throughout the Talpoor family, one day there is a marriage, and, the next, brothers are arrayed in hostility against each other; such has always been the case and will prevail more or less; but now is the time to smother all unfriendly feeling among ourselves. The enemy is seated within eight coss of us and there is little doubt from the accounts we daily receive, that he meditates demands on our territory which it behoves us to unite in repressing." Much more was said to a similar effect, and Ali Moorad subserved to the desires of Meer Roostum, and for the present it may be considered that the principal and most powerful of the Khyrpore Ameers are united. It was then decided that four days hence on the termination of the Ramazan, a large Shikar party is to be got up in the direction of Nichee and Bubberlow, Meer Ali Moorad keeping his party separate, and following to Bubberlow a day or two after the party of Meer Roostum. Thence Futteh Mahomed Ghoree is to be deputed to invite the General to Shikar, and a meeting with the chiefs. If the General does introduce the subject, the Ameers are to point out to him that their Treaty with Lord Auckland was one of friendship, in pursuance of which they lent their fort of Bukkur, and a camp at Sukkur for our troops; if any thing should be said about a cession of territory, a decided negative is to be given, and they are immediately to prepare for hostilities.

November 2. After the consultation reported yesterday, the Khyrpore Ameers came to the resolution of sending all their wives and children away from that place. Ali Moorad was applied to in the first instance, to give them an asylum in the fort of Deejie; but he represented that the fort would not contain such a number of families, and it was resolved that the whole should be sent to Meer Roostum Khan's fort of Shahgur, some thirty coss in the Jessulmere Desert, this side of that place; and also a portion to a new fort of Meer Nusseer Khan's, some seven or eight coss to the north; for the above purpose active preparations are making to provide mussucks, ropes, camel saddles, kujawas, &c., &c., and camels have been directed to be in readiness. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree was opposed to any immediate move, as he affirmed that the whole city and surrounding inhabitants would take alarm if they saw the Ameers' families sent into the desert; in this opinion he was overruled by that of Mahabut Khan Murree, who declared that it was much better that the families should be put out of the way in safety than that they should be subjected to the misery and privations experienced by Mehrab Khan's women

in flying from Kelat, many of whom had not even a horse or camel to ride upon, and who were wandering for days among the mountains from one house to another, dependent on the hospitality of the inmates for food; on hearing this, Meer Roostum Khan gave Futteh Mahomed Ghoree orders to make the necessary preparations. Bhadoor Ali Shah yesterday received a purwanna from Meer Roostum directing him to make a report of the English force from actual observation, without delay, he therefore visited the camp at Jaffirabad yesterday, and returned in the evening. Meer Ali Moorad was still at Khyrpore at noon yesterday.

A Belooch, who arrived this day from Larkhana, states that Wallee Mahomed Chandia, commanding the Ameer of Hyderabad's force in that direction (at present 5,000 men though capable of being raised to 12,000); had stated that he had the Ameer's orders to resist the entry of any British force into that province.

November 3. Yesterday, Meer Ali Moorad and Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore terminated their animosity; they embraced, and afterwards Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Ali Khan proceeded to Meer Ali Murdan's house where they all dined together with Meer Ali Moorad. They all swore on the Koran before Meer Roostum, that all former differences were now at an end, and that they were all united under his orders. Meer Roostum has constituted Meer Moorad chief over all his forces of every description, and to Meer Nusseer Khan he has entrusted the charge of home affairs, the collection of the revenue, &c. Meer Roostum declared that it was a fortunate circumstance that Meer Ali Moorad had quarrelled with him for it had opened his eyes to the necessity of putting his munitions of war in the serviceable state which they now are. The preparations for the removal of the Meers' ladies, &c., are going on rapidly. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree's messenger came yesterday to Jeth Sing and Chuttroo Mull, to desire that they would repair quickly to Khyrpore. Jeth Sing excused himself for two days more, as he had hurt his knees in getting out of the boat. Bhadoor Ali Shah Syud has written to Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, to say that he had visited the different camps and even some of the tents, and that the sepoys were in such a sickly and wretched state, particularly those who have lately arrived from Khorassan, that there need not be the slightest apprehension about them. The force at Sukkur was mostly composed of sick, and although many tents were pitched, they were in great part empty. Meer Roostum has also received letters from Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, stating that all the Ameers of Hyderabad were now united in the cause, and not to be alarmed for the result, in case the English threatened their possessions. All the commanders were provided with instructions to act immediately on the receipt of Meer Roostum's orders: the letter further says:—"When the force went up to Khorassan and Cabool, we made a treaty to pay yearly three lacs of rupees; however the English have now been driven out of Affghanistan, and we have an answer ready for the above money whenever it is demanded."

November 5. Meer Ali Moorad and Meer Nusseer Khan have each affianced a son and daughter to each other's son and daughter, and Meer Nusseer proceeds to Dejee-ka-kote for the purpose of arranging the marriage to-morrow or next day. Meer Nusseer* Khan expressing some anxiety as to the result of declaring hostility to the British, was assured by Meer Ali Moorad and Meer Nusseer Khan, that there was no occasion for apprehension—that the English force was prostrate with sickness, and even, if efficient, it was a mere handful compared to what they could bring into the field; moreover, have they not been thrust out of Affghanistan. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree advised that, should hostilities break out with the English, the priests should be directed to proclaim it a religious war against the Feringhee caffirs, and that all the plundering Beloochees should be called in around Sukkur where they would by robbing and murdering, make it too hot for the English to remain in.

Meer Nusseer Khan has written to Dewan Ummul Rahe at Meerpore, by the hands of Sujawul Booyyah, directing 200 khurwars of grain to be immediately thrown into his fort of Nusseer Ghur, in the Jessulmere desert. Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Roostum, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, and Meer Ali Moorad

* Sic in orig.

have had several conversations previous to the latter's departure for his fort, respecting the safety of the women and children. Futteh Mahomed, arguing that if they are sent off now, the whole of the inhabitants of Khyrpore will desert it, and finally Meer Ali Moorad (who refused to receive the families some days back before they became friends) has now consented that they shall all find refuge in Dejee-ka-kote, which being only six coss off, is at a more convenient distance, and their departure, can, therefore, be delayed to the latest moment. Service has been offered to most of the Patans who have come down with General England's army, numbers have crossed the river and accepted it under Meer Roostum, but others have declined, stating, that they know the English style of fighting, and that in Sinde there are no mountains to escape to, and therefore, prefer returning to Affghanistan.

Futteh Mahomed Ghoree arrived yesterday in Roree to ascertain what is going on in this direction, and to visit Major Outram on the part of the Ameers, previous to his departure. He went early this morning to the house of Jeth Sing and Chuttroo Mull, and it is arranged that Hote Sing and Roopchund, shall through the Moonshee Ali Akhbar solicit an audience for Futteh Mahomed.

Ruheem Khan Bhar, servant of Meer Nusseer at Bhawul Khan's Durbar, has written, that Bhawul Khan has been invited to Sukkur by the General, and that he is getting ready 7,000 men who are to come down by the land; the Khan to come in boats, a number of which are collecting in Bhawulpore.

Jan Mahomed Toonia was sent this morning from Roree by Futteh Mahomed to Shere Mahomed Boordee, to keep them ready for any thing that may be required of them.

Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad has sent a valuable sword mounted with gold and jewels, to Wullee Mahomed Chandia in return for his assurance that no enemy of the Ameers shall find footing in the Chandkeh pergunnas.

J. OUTRAM.

No. 386.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Simla, November* 3, 1842.

I RECEIVED yesterday your letter of the 17th ultimo, dispatched with the accompanying papers, on the subject of our relations with the Ameers of Sinde, on the 26th.

The whole complicated question is now under my consideration, and I shall shortly communicate to you the result.

In the mean time, however, it may be convenient that you should be informed that nothing has occurred to change my opinion already intimated to you, that we should do well to confine ourselves to the possession of Sukkur, with an ample arrondissement, abandoning altogether Shikarpore.

No. 387.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Simla, November* 3, 1842.

I HAVE taken into consideration your report of the 17th ultimo, and the several papers annexed thereto, relating to the infractions of treaty and acts of hostility committed by the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde.

I am of opinion that the letter, attributed to Meer Roostum Khan, to the Maharajah Shere Sing, is in direct contravention of the 4th Article of the Treaty concluded at Khyrpore on the 24th December, 1838; and I deem it to be of the utmost importance to mark this contravention of positive engagement by such punishment as may deter from the commission of similar acts, all chiefs who may be bound by similar treaties.

I am of opinion that the conduct of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, confidential

Minister of Meer Roostum Khan, in compassing the escape of Syud Mahomed Shureef, was, under the circumstances, an act of hostility to the British Government, for which Meer Roostum Khan is responsible.

It is a subject of regret that these acts should have proceeded from Meer Roostum Khan, who, in the early periods of the Affghan war, appeared to be friendly to the British Government; but, if there should be no reason to doubt his having written the letter to Maharajah Shere Sing, and if his Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, should be so far in his confidence as to be really identified with his Highness, we are not only justified in treating him as an enemy, but it is necessary to do so, in order to deter him by punishment, and others by example, from the commission of similar acts of perfidy.

If there be no doubt that Meer Nusseer Khan addressed the letter attributed to him to Beebruck Boogtie, that letter alone is a sufficient ground for exacting from Meer Nusseer Khan any penalty which it is allowable to impose upon an enemy.

In his case, however, and in that of Meer Roostum Khan, the right to make any demand, extending to the cession of territory, depends upon their having committed the alleged offences, amounting, in both instances, to constructive hostility.

With respect to the infractions of specific Treaty, committed by the several Ameers of Hyderabad, they are of so serious a nature, and so pertinaciously persisted in, that I feel it to be absolutely necessary, with a view to secure the future observance of the Treaty, not merely to require the performance of such acts on the part of the Ameers as shall place the Articles of the Treaty, which had been violated, in full and effective operation, but further to impose upon them such penalties as shall deter them from deviating in a similar manner in future from their engagements.

The 8th Article of the Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, concluded on the 24th of December, 1838, is in these words:—

"In order to improve by every means possible the growing intercourse by the River Indus, Meer Roostum Khan promises all co-operation with the other Powers in any measures which may be hereafter thought necessary for extending and facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus."

Since the period at which that Treaty was concluded various engagements have been entered into by the British Government with the Ameers of Hyderabad, the Nawab of Bhawulpore, and the Maharajah of Lahore, for the purpose of facilitating the navigation of the Indus. These engagements are not of the same tenour; those with the Nawab and the Maharajah providing that a small fixed duty shall be levied to the use of those Sovereigns respectively, on the transit of boats of different burthens along the frontiers of their dominions, and the Treaty with the Ameers of Hyderabad stipulating for entire freedom of navigation.

I consider that the Treaty with Meer Roostum Khan must be held to bind the Ameers of Khyrpore to acquiesce in such arrangements, for the benefit of trade upon the Indus, as might be agreed to by their kindred Ameers of Hyderabad, and I shall expect that these arrangements will be observed as strictly by the Ameers of Khyrpore, as if they were inserted in the Treaty concluded by Meer Roostum Khan.

No. 388.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, November* 4, 1842.

HAVING stated to you, in my letter of yesterday's date, the position in which it appears to me that the British Government stands with respect to certain of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, I will now communicate to you my views as to the course which should be pursued.

2. The free navigation of the Indus through the dominions of the Ameers of Lower Sinde, and the free introduction of all articles of consumption into the British cantonments, are already provided for by the Treaty of 1839; and the strict observance of these provisions must be enforced.

3. They appear to be sufficient for their purpose without any alteration in words.

4. The engagement of Meer Roostum Khan in the Treaty of 1838, that he would acquiesce in the arrangements made by other Powers for the free navigation of the Indus, must be construed as binding him to the performance of the engagements subsequently entered into by the Ameers of Lower Sinde for that object; but it will be necessary to proceed one step further, and to require that all articles of consumption shall be freely introduced into the British cantonments.

5. I have always considered that the obligation on the part of a native State to pay tribute to our Government is one which places us in a false position. No character can be more offensive than that of an exacting creditor, with which this obligation invests us. It gives rise to constant discussion of an unfriendly nature between our Government and that of the native States, and it makes us appear to be the cause of all the exactions which the native State inflicts upon its subjects. I desire, therefore, to base the new arrangements to be made with the Ameers of Lower Sinde upon the abolition of all tribute now payable by them to the British Government.

6. In exchange for the tribute given up by us, we should exact the cession of territory. In the first instance, the surrender of territory would be as painful to the Ameers as the exaction of tribute; but the latter is a grievance constantly recurring, brought continually to the recollection by incessant applications for payment, which the debtor State continually invents excuses to evade or defer. The cession of territory is a grievance which, once submitted to, is in time almost forgotten, and in this case a large portion of the territory to be demanded is of recent conquest, not a part of any ancient possession.

7. Another provision which it appears to me to be expedient to introduce into a revised Treaty with the Ameers, is one for the establishment of uniformity of currency in their dominions.

8. The inconveniences and evils which arise from the intermixture of currencies of various and changing values are constantly forcing themselves upon my attention. I desire ultimately to establish one uniform currency throughout India. This is a convenient opportunity for introducing a provision to that effect with respect to Sinde. I am aware that native States attach much importance to the right of coinage. I shall endeavour, as far as any feelings of pride are concerned, to save those feelings by an engagement to coin for the native States rupees, bearing, on one side, whatever inscription or device they may prefer, but, on the other side, the head of the Sovereign of England; such rupees to be of the same intrinsic value as those which are called "Company's rupees," and the whole charge of the coinage to be borne by the British Government.

9. The exaction of a provision to this effect is but a lenient penalty for the offences which the Ameers have committed, and to this I propose to add another, strongly recommended by you,—a provision securing to us the right to cut wood upon both banks of the Indus for the use of the steamers.

10. At the same time, I know that, on the part of the Ameers, there will be more repugnance to this provision than to any other we could require; and I cannot but doubt whether it would not be found more economical to make use of coal imported from England than of wood to be cut upon the banks of the Indus. However, for our own security, we must have this provision. It would be expedient to make it as little painful to the Ameers as possible, and to resort to the enforcement of the right to be conceded, only in the event of their not furnishing, at the price, and at the places, to be fixed from time to time, the quantity of wood demanded by the officers of our Government.

11. The lands we might demand as an equivalent for the tribute we are prepared to abandon, and those of which we may require the cession by Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, as the just penalties for their designed hostility, are in value beyond what are wanted for our own purposes; for it would be highly inexpedient for us to possess upon the Indus any larger extent of territory than may be sufficient to afford full security to the trade upon that river, and to give us the entire military command of it. It is to me a subject of great satisfaction that this circumstance will afford the means of conferring a great reward upon our most faithful ally and friend the Nawab of Bhawulpore.

12. I consider it to be a measure of true policy to show to all the States of India, that while we punish the infraction of engagements, we reward

fidelity; and it will be in our power by compelling the cession to the Nawab, by Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Mahomed Khan, of the pergunnas of Bhoong Bhara and Subzulkote, which were wrested from Bhawulpore thirty-three years ago, to confer a favour the most gratifying to the Nawab and his people.

13. It appears that the late Meer Moobaruck Khan possessed a very large portion of the fertile territory between Subzulkote and Roree, and it might be desirable that this territory also should be ceded by Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, his son, if he should now be in possession of it, to the Nawab of Bhawulpore, so that the dominion of the Nawab might extend to Roree, and we might have one continued line of friendly territory on the left bank of the Sutledj and Indus, from Ferozepore to Roree. I am not, however, acquainted with the value of these pergunnahs formerly belonging to Meer Moobaruck Khan, nor with their exact position, and it is possible that some of them, or all, may have been allotted to his other sons, and not to Meer Nusseer Khan, who alone, as far as I am informed, has placed himself in the position of an enemy by his conduct.

14. If these pergunnahs should belong to the late Meer Moobaruck Khan's other sons, the surplus tribute to be surrendered by us (in excess of the annual value of the lands to be demanded) may be made the means of compensation to the present possessors, the tribute being in all cases exchanged for land, for it is undesirable that there should be any payments of money to be made amongst the Ameers themselves. They are the constant source of dissension, and I have no wish to afflict them by the introduction of this perpetual element of quarrels into their family.

15. I have already stated that I am desirous of confining the acquisitions of territory to be made by us, to such as are necessary for the full protection of the trade upon the Indus, and the military command of the river.

16. These objects will be accomplished by the possession of Kurachee, Tatta, Sukkur, Bukkur, and Roree, together with such arrondissement as may be necesssary for the secure and convenient occupation of the places, and to give ample room for the extension of the towns and cantonments.

17. I have no information with respect to Tatta. At an early period of the Affghan war, it was considered desirable to have possession of it, as the place of embarkation upon the Indus. It would, I conclude, be very valuable as a possession; and, in any case, it would be advisable to insert, in any revised treaty, provisions, not only securing to us the free use of that place of embarkation, but likewise the free use of the navigable creek between Kurachee and Tatta, and of the road from that creek to Tatta.

18. I have not introduced into the Draft of Treaty, which I annex to this letter, any provisions for the entire freedom of the internal trade of Sinde, principally because I doubt the power of the Ameers, even if well disposed, to effect that object beyond the Indus; and further, because, even on the left bank of the Indus, it would be difficult for us to detect all the practical infractions of such a provision, and to enforce the observance of it.

19. You may, however, bear in mind, that my ultimate object is the entire freedom of internal trade throughout the whole territory between Hindoo Koosh, the Indus, and the Sea; and that I only await the favourable occasion for effecting this purpose, and for introducing uniformity of currency within the same limits.

20. To these great benefits, to be enjoyed equally by 140 millions of people, I desire, ultimately, to add the abolition of all tributes payable by one State to another; and the substitution, for such tributes, of cessions of territory, so made, by means of mutual exchanges, as to bring together into masses the dominions of the several Sovereigns and Chiefs. These various measures, which would impart to the people of India the most considerable of the advantages derived from union under the same empire, it may require much time to effect, but it is desirable that they should always be held in view, as the ultimate object of our policy, not inconsistent with the real independence of any State, and conducive to the happiness of the subjects of all.

I have, &c.,

ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 389.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Simla, November* 4, 1842.

YOU will nominate such officer as you may consider most competent to execute the duty of Commissioner, in negotiating the treaties with the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, of which I transmit the drafts, and in carrying the details of the treaties, when concluded, into effect.

The treaty proposed to be imposed upon Meer Roostum and Meer Nusseer Khans, rests, for its justification, upon the assumption that the letters said to be addressed by Meer Roostum to the Maharajah Shere Sing, and by Meer Nusseer Khan to Beebruck Boogtie, were really written by those chiefs respectively, and that the confidential Minister of Meer Roostum did, as is alleged, contrive the escape of the Syud Mahomed Shureef. In the absence of Mr. Clerk, I cannot ascertain what his opinion may be with respect to the authenticity of the letter to Sawun Mull, attributed to Meer Nusseer Khan, nor have I a copy of that letter; but, in any case, the Political Officers employed in Sinde, have the best means of ascertaining the validity of these several charges, resting upon the writing of letters, which have been brought against Meer Roostum and Meer Nusseer Khan; and I know that you will satisfy yourself of the truth of these charges, before you exact the penalty of the offences they impute.

If Meer Nusseer Khan addressed the letter imputed to him to Beebruck Boogtie, it is a matter of little moment whether he likewise addressed any letter to Sawun Mull. Hostility to the British Government is proved by the former letter.

The Commissioner you may nominate will act entirely under your instructions.

I request you will communicate to me your opinion as to the salary or allowances the Commissioner should receive. You will probably find it convenient to attach to the Commissioner one of your extra aides-de-camp, or you may, if you should think fit, employ an extra aide-de-camp as Commissioner.

No. 390.

Note to the Ameers of Hyderabad, with the Draft of a Treaty.

November 4, 1842.

THE Governor-General of India, having taken into his consideration all the infractions of the Treaty between the British Government and the Ameers of Hyderabad, which have been recently committed, and, notwithstanding remonstrances, long persisted in by the Ameers, with the exception of Meer Sobdar Khan; and further taking into his consideration the hostile character which circumstances imparted to divers of these infractions of the Treaty, and feeling the necessity of so marking his sense of the misconduct of the Ameers who have committed such infractions of treaty, as to deter them from the the renewal thereof; has empowered Major-General Sir Charles Napier to require from the Ameers of Hyderabad their consent to the several provisions contained in the annexed Draft of Treaty.

Amongst these provisions, the Ameeers will perceive that the Governor-General of India, desirous of preventing all future cause of difference and alienation, and of making a final and satisfactory settlement between the British Government and their Highnesses, has inserted an Article, whereby the British Government releases the Ameers from all obligation to pay tribute after the 1st of December of this year.

The Ameers will see in this provision the regard which, notwithstanding their misconduct, the Governor-General of India has not ceased to entertain for the comfort and dignity of their Highnesses, and his sincere attachment to peace.

No. 391.

Note to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, with the Draft of a Treaty.

Simla, November 4, 1842.

THE Governor-General of India, taking into consideration the hostile conduct of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, manifested in addressing to Beebruck Boogtie a letter, having for its object the inducing of that chief to engage in acts of hostility against the British Government; and further taking into consideration a letter of similar hostile purport, addressed by Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to Sawun Mull, has empowered Major-General Sir Charles Napier to require from Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, that his consent be given to the provisions of the annexed treaty; for the Governor-General of India cannot permit any chief whatever to devise measures of hostility against the British Government, and least of all, a chief practically enjoying its protection, without exacting such penalty for the offence as shall effectually prevent a renewal thereof, and deter all other chiefs from the perpetration of similar conduct.

Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad having consented to, and carried into effect, the provisions of the required treaty, will be again admitted to the friendship of the Governor-General of India, who will forget offences for which due atonement has been made.

No. 392.

Draft of a Treaty between the Ameers of Hyderabad and the British Government.

Simla, November 4, 1842.

1. THE Ameers of Hyderabad are relieved from the payment of all tribute to the British Government, which, under existing engagements, would become due after the 1st of January, 1843.

2. The only coin legally current in the dominions of the Ameers of Hyderabad, after the 1st of January, 1845, shall be the Company's rupee, and the rupee hereinafter mentioned.

3. The British Government will coin for the Ameers of Hyderabad such number of rupees as they may require from time to time, such rupees bearing, on one side, the effigy of the Sovereign of England, with such inscription as the British Government may, from time to time, adopt, and, on the reverse, such inscription or device as the Ameers may prefer.

4. Such rupees so to be coined for the Ameers shall contain the same quantity of silver, and of the same fineness, as the Company's rupees, and for every rupee so coined the Ameers shall deliver to the officers of the British Government who may hereafter be, from time to time, appointed to receive the same, a quantity of silver equal to that contained in such rupee, and of equal fineness, or approved bills of equal value, and such rupees so coined for the Ameers shall be delivered to them within four months after the receipt, by the appointed officer, of the silver equivalent thereto, or within four months after the payment of the approved bills for the amount, without any charge for the coinage, which charge will be wholly borne by the British Government.

5. The Ameers, in consideration of the above engagement, renounce the privilege of coining money, and will not exercise the same from the date of the signature of this treaty.

6. With a view to the necessary provision of wood for the use of steamers navigating the Indus and the rivers communicating therewith, the British Government shall have the right to fell wood within one hundred yards of both banks of the Indus within the territories of the Ameers; but the British Government, being unwilling to exercise such right in a manner inconvenient or disagreeable to the Ameers, will exercise it only under the direction of British officers, and will refrain from all exercise thereof, so long as the Ameers shall provide at the places to be named, such a quantity of wood fit for the purpose of fuel, at the price of the as the officers of the British Government may, from time to time, require.

7. The following places and districts are ceded in perpetuity to the British Government: Kurachee and Tatta, with such arrondissement as may be deemed necessary by Major-General Sir Charles Napier, and, moreover, the right of free passage over the territories of the Ameers between Kurachee and Tatta, along such line, and within such limits on either side thereof, as Major-General Sir Charles Napier may prefer; and, within such limits, the officers of the British Government shall alone have jurisdiction.

8. All the rights and interest of the Ameers, or of any one of them, in Subzulkote, and in all the territory intervening between the present frontier of Bhawulpore and the town of Roree, are ceded in perpetuity to his Highness the Nawab of Bhawulpore, the ever faithful ally and friend of the British Government.

9. To the Meer Sobdar Khan, who has constantly evinced fidelity to his engagements, and attachment to the British Government, is ceded territory producing half a lac of annual revenue, such cession being made in consideration of the loss he will sustain by the tranfer of Kurachee to the British Government, and as a reward for his good conduct.

10. The Commissioner appointed by Major-General Sir Charles Napier for the execution of this Treaty, will, after hearing the several Ameers, finally decide what lands shall be made over to Meer Sobdar Khan, in pursuance of the above Article, by the other Ameers.

11. Inasmuch as the territories to be ceded by the several Ameers, under the provisions of this Treaty, differ in annual value, and the amount of the tribute now payable by the several Ameers is not altogether the same, the Commissioner appointed by Major-General Sir Charles Napier, shall hear the several Ameers as to the annual value of the lands so ceded, and shall declare what payments of money, or what cessions of land in lieu thereof, shall be made by the Ameers who shall make no cession of lands, or cessions of lands of inferior value, to such as shall make such cessions of higher value under this Treaty, that so the value of the cessions made by the several Ameers (always excepting Meer Sobdar Khan), shall be as nearly commensurate as possible with the tribute to the payment of which each was before liable.

12. The remainder of the tribute now payable, which shall not be absorbed in the making of such compensations, or lands yielding an annual revenue of equal amount, shall be at the disposal of the British Government, but the British Government will retain no portion thereof for itself.

No. 393.

Note to Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, with the Draft of a Treaty.

Simla, November 4, 1842.

THE Governor-General of India has learned with deep regret, that Meer Roostum Khan, whose conduct in the early period of the Affghan war was such as to merit the approbation of the British Government, has been laid away by evil advisers, or by his own change of feeling, to engage in transactions inconsistent with his specific engagements, and with friendliness, endeavouring to commence a correspondence, with a view to hostile proceedings against the British Government, with its most faithful and most esteemed ally and friend, his Highness Maharajah Shere Sing; and, further, through his Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, compassing the escape from the confinement in which he had been placed, for offences against the British Government, of the Syud Mahomed Shureef Khan, and enabling that person to proceed towards Quetta, for the renewal of measures of war against the British forces.

The Governor-General of India, however he may regret that a chief, long deemed to be a friend, should have so given proofs of enmity to the British Government, cannot altogether forgive such offences, however they may now be repented, and has empowered Major-General Sir Charles Napier to require from Meer Roostum Khan, that his consent be given to the provisions contained in the Draft of Treaty hereunto annexed, which done, Meer Roostum Khan will be again admitted into favour and friendship.

No. 394.

Draft of Treaty between the British Government and the Ameers of Khyrpore.

Simla, November 4, 1842.

1. THE pergunna of Bhoong Bhara, and the third part of the district of Subzulkote, and the villages of Gotkee, Maladee, Chaonga, Dadoola, and Uzeezpore, and all the territories of the Ameers of Khyrpore, or any of them, intervening between the present dominions of his Highness the Nawab of Bhawulpore, and the town and district of Roree, are ceded in perpetuity to his Highness the Nawab.

5. The town of Sukkur, with such arrondissement as shall be deemed necessary by Major-General Sir Charles Napier, and the Islands of Bukkur and the adjoining islets, and the town of Roree, with such arrondissement as may be deemed necessary by Major-General Sir Charles Napier, are ceded in perpetuity to the British Government.

3. The Commissioner appointed by Major-General Sir Charles Napier for the execution of this Treaty, and of the Treaty to be concluded with the Ameers of Hyderabad, shall appropriate the surplus tribute, from which the Ameers of Hyderabad will be relieved by that Treaty (of which an account will be rendered to the Ameers of Khyrpore), or lands of equal value in lieu thereof, first, to the indemnification of such Ameers of Khyrpore, other than Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan, as may make cessions of territory under this Treaty, and, then, for the benefit of Meer Roostum Khan and Meer Nusseer Khan, in proportion to the annual value of the cessions made by them respectively under this Treaty.

4. The Ameers of Khyrpore having, by the Treaty concluded on the 24th December, 1838, agreed, "in order to improve by every means possible the growing intercourse by the River Indus, to afford all co-operation with the other Powers in any measures which may hereafter be thought necessary for extending and facilitating the commerce and navigation of the Indus;" and the Ameers of Hyderabad having since, by a Treaty concluded in 1839, agreed "that no toll shall be levied on trading boats passing up or down the River Indus from the sea to the northernmost point of that stream within their territories, with the *proviso* that any merchandize landed from such boats on their passage up or down the river, and sold, shall be subject to the usual duties of the country, except goods sold in a British camp or cantonment, which goods shall be exempt from the payment of duty:" the Ameers of Khyrpore now agree to abide by, and observe, the above provision, in the same manner, and as fully, as if the same were inserted in the Treaty concluded by them in 1838.

5. The only coin legally current in the dominions of the Ameers of Khyrpore, after the 1st of January, 1845, shall be the Company's rupee, and the rupee hereinafter mentioned.

6. The British Government will coin for the Ameers of Khyrpore such number of rupees as they may require from time to time, such rupees bearing, on one side, the effigy of the Sovereign of England, with such inscription as the British Government may from time to time adopt, and, on the reverse, such inscription or device as the Ameers may prefer.

7. Such rupees, so to be coined for the Ameers, shall contain the same quantity of silver, and of the same fineness, as the Company's rupees; and, for every rupee so coined, the Ameers shall deliver to the officers of the British Government who may hereafter be from time to time appointed to receive the same, a quantity of silver equal to that contained in such rupee, and of equal fineness; or approved bills of equal value; and such rupees, so coined for the Ameers, shall be delivered over to them within four months after the receipt, by the appointed officer, of the silver equivalent thereto, or within four months after the payment of the approved bills for the amount, without any charge for the coinoge, which charge will be wholly borne by the British Government.

8. The Ameers, in consideration of the above engagement, renounce the privilege of coining money, and will not exercise the same from the date of the signature of this Treaty.

9. With a view to the necessary provision of wood for the use of

steamers navigating the Indus and the rivers communicating therewith, the British Government shall have the right to fell wood within 100 yards of both banks of the Indus, within the territories of the Ameers; but the British Government, being unwilling to exercise such right in a manner inconvenient or disagreeable to the Ameers, will exercise it only under the direction of British officers, and will refrain from all exercise thereof so long as the Ameers shall provide at the places to be named such quantity of wood fit for the purposes of fuel at the price of the as the officers of the British Government may from time to time require.

10. The British Government renounces every claim heretofore made upon the late Meer Moobaruck Khan, or upon Meer Nusseer Khan, or the other sons of the late Meer Moobaruck Khan, on account of Nuzzerana, in the name of the late Shah Shooja, or on account of annual tribute, and the arrears thereof, and interest thereon, on its own behalf.

No. 395.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November 5*, 1842.

I HAVE been honored with your Lordship's letter dated the 28th ult.

Prince Timour is exceedingly ill, but in a few days the doctor thinks he will be able to travel.

I have read with the greatest gratification your Lordship's proclamation relative to the Dost and his family; coupled with the late victories, the moral effect will be great all over India, and calm down this troubled frontier. But it will be felt in Europe also. I hope we may be able to effect all we want in Sinde without the use of force, though I much fear that Nusseer Khan is a wrong-headed man. People about him had been assuring him of the weakness of our force, so I ordered a genera parade which made a good show, and I think will put an end to the stories of our weakness. As your Lordship receives a weekly digest of our information, I do not trouble you by repeating the tales we hear. The Ameers have not committed any overt act, and I only wait till I hear from you, after your Lordship receives the long letter I sent on the 25th ultimo, to draw out a fresh treaty, entering minutely into the details of exchanging tribute for territory; and if your Lordship approves of this, I would submit it to the Ameers, at the same time sparing no pains to convince them that neither injury nor injustice is meditated, and that by accepting the Treaty they will become more rich, and more secure in the possession of power, than they now are. If they refuse to listen to reason, if they persist in sacrificing everything to their avarice and their shikargahs, or hunting-grounds, they must even have their way, and try the force of arms at their peril, if so they are resolved.

I have long since sent up the rockets as your Lordship ordered; I think they must have reached Ferozepore ere now.

I am at present getting things into order in this camp, which had unavoidably fallen into confusion from the dispersion of the troops and staff officers. I hope shortly to make a considerable reduction in the expense, perhaps 10,000 rupees annually in the staff alone. But I cannot go thoroughly into financial matters till I get the camp into order, and then excrescences will appear and be lopped off.

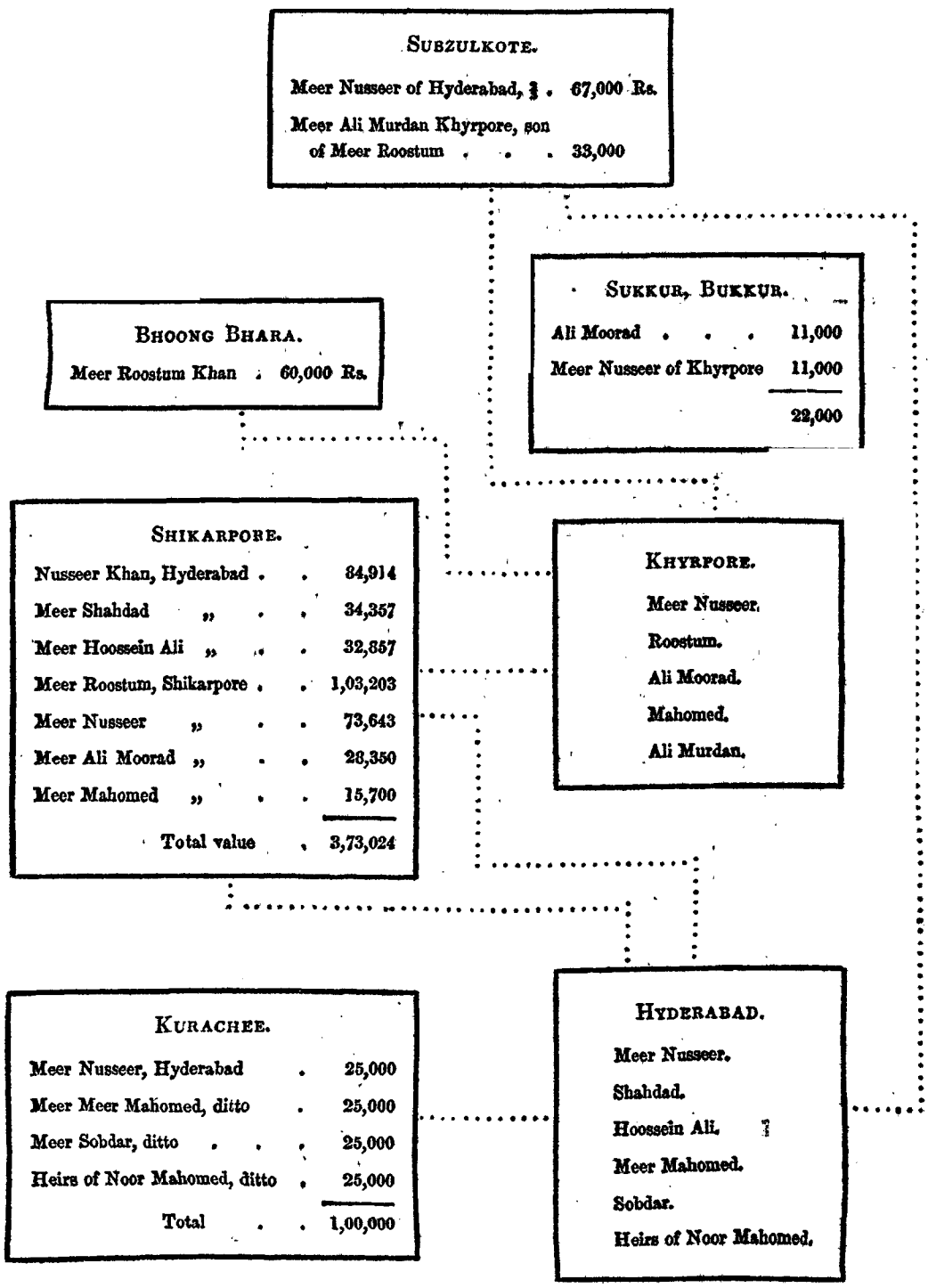
Your Lordship's postscript to your letter of the 28th has just arrived, Both letter and postcript shall be rigidly attended to as the base of all intercourse with the Ameers; the third of Subzulkote does not belong to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, but to Meer Ali Murdan of Khyrpore, the third son of Meer Roostum, and implicated in all hostility against us, the same as his father; so that his portion would be as justly forfeited as that of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, who possesses the remaining part of Subzulkote. I have inclosed a table which will, perhaps, save your Lordship the trouble of reading through many papers.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

No. 396.

A Table showing the interest of each Ameer in the Towns and Districts under discussion, 1842.



NOTE.—Meer Roostum was excused tribute to the amount of 1,00,000 rupees, because of his former good conduct. If he now is made to forfeit his family possessions in Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara, it would put him on a footing with other Ameers who were made to pay, and he appears to be as hostile to us as any Ameer, and by no means to have merited our leniency.

Besides, his right to Subzulkote was contested by the Ameer of Bhawulpore, and we (then entering on the Affghan war) put an end to the contest, and gave the possession to Meer Roostum, to the prejudice of our ancient and faithful ally of Bhawulpore.

No. 397.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Simla, November* 11, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch, bearing date the 31st ultimo, with one from Major Outram, inclosing an intercepted letter from Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and a paper of intelligence.

In reply, I am directed to inform you, that after a perusal of these papers, the Governor-General has no instructions to give you, in addition to those addressed to you on the 3rd and 4th instant.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 398.

The Envoy at the Court of Lahore to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Simla, November* 12, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to annex translations of two letters, sent to me by Major Outram, purporting to be from Vizier Kurrum Khan and Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to Maharajah Shere Sing, and a note to Dewan Sawun Mull, which would appear, from the accompanying letter from Major Outram, dated the 24th ultimo, to be from Meer Nusseer Khan. I also annex an extract of a letter from Major Outram to me, which accompanied these letters, and beg to state, that, thinking it probable I might be returning to Lahore soon after these documents reached me, I considered that the information regarding this or previous correspondence of the kind, which it was Major Outram's wish that I should elicit from the Maharajah, could best be obtained in a personal conference. I have continued to think so, and thus have not attempted by other means, or through other persons, to elucidate the doubts to which these intercepted papers give rise. I failed in my endeavours to trace the cossids to their homes, as directed by Major Outram.

2. The authenticity of these letters is yet matter of some doubt to me, as it was to Major Outram when sending them. My expressing an opinion, therefore, can serve no practical end, nor do I think that the question can at any time be well judged of here.

I have, &c.,
G. CLERK.

No. 399.

Meer Roostum Khan Talpoor to Maharajah Shere Sing.

April 26, 1842.

YOUR letter full of kindness, and expressing a desire to confirm the Treaty concluded between you and myself, by affixing the seals of my son Meer Mahomed Hoossein Khan, and Meer Mahomed Nusseer Khan, the son of my late brother, Moobaruck Khan, was received, and greatly obliged me. In reply, I beg to say, that the Treaty which was sent to your Highness was written after great consideration, leaving no doubt of our mutual friendship; though it was signed and sealed by myself, without the seals of my son and nephew, still it is mentioned therein that Mahomed Hoossein Khan is my heir, and would succeed me in the possession of my territories, and Mahomed Nusseer Khan in that of his father; and that, according to that Treaty, they would be obedient to the Khalsa Government, for your fulfilment of its articles, as in my time; so that the Treaty

regards also my sons. If you are not still satisfied, and have still any doubt regarding my sons, be pleased to dispatch one of your confidential agents with a draft of the Treaty you wish to conclude with them; and, after drawing it out at this place, I will get the seals of my sons affixed to it, as they will also agree to the terms. With respect to your inquiry regarding the changeable disposition of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and consequently your not being well satisfied with him, I beg to inform you that, on the arrival of your letter under acknowledgment, I dispatched a cossid with my letter to Meer Nusseer Khan, and was acquainted in reply, that he is very firm on the terms concluded between you and himself; but owing to the evil suggestions of certain of his courtiers, that you would not assist him against his enemy at so great a distance, the Meer was somewhat disappointed; but on my forwarding strong arguments, and through the exertions of my Vizier, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, the Meer has become more firm in his agreement than before; and you will separately hear from him. Be satisfied in regard to him. But the Meer and I beg your Highness to withhold your friendship and correspondence with the Meer and my brothers, who have, against our will, united to the tribe (which are known to me and you). Considering me a friend, and obedient to your Government, accept the above as a true agreement; and also consider Vizier Futteh Khan Ghoree, with his descendants, as obedient to, and dependent, on your Government, regarding him as a party to this Treaty, for everything was negotiated through his exertions. Considering me always desirous of seeing you well, please to favour me with tidings of yourself.

No. 400.

Vizier Kurrum Khan Talpoor to Maharajah Shere Sing.

April 26, 1842.

YOUR letter containing your Highness' inquiries after my health, reached me at a happy time, when I was anxiously expecting it, and gave me great gratification. God preserve you, and increase your wealth for the kind remembrance you keep of those at a distance. I trust to be always favoured with your instructions regarding any services that may be in my power; "a letter is half a visit."

No. 401.

Supposed Letter from Meer Nusseer Khan to Dewan Sawun Mull.

IT is proposed by the British officers to employ Lalla Jaikundas * to discharge the duties of the relations of the Governments, if the Maharajah would write in his favour; therefore it is advisable, in my opinion, that, agreeably to his request for a recommendatory letter, you will employ him in your service, so that he may, while apparently appointed for that duty, be really executing the services which are known to you and me; otherwise do as you may think best. The recollection of your friendship is always in my mind.

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* Lalla Jaikundas is a Lahore newswriter, ordinarily stationed at Shikarpore, and sometimes usefully employed by the British authorities in insignificant border references.

No. 402.

Major Outram to the Envoy at the Court of Lahore.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, October* 24, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to request you will do me the favour to furnish Mr. Maddock with a translation of the letter addressed by Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to Sawun Mull of Mooltan, which I forwarded to you on the 1st May last, the copy retained in this office having miscarried.

I shall feel obliged by your returning the original, and favouring me with your opinion as to its being genuine, or otherwise.

No. 403.

Intelligence from Sinde, 7th to 13th November, 1842.

THE following is intelligence received from the Assistant Political Agent at Hyderabad, November 3rd:—

In consequence of a communication received from the Commissariat officer at Kurachee that the kardar of Meer Nusseer Khan at Vikkur was instigating the boatmen to refuse to carry Government stores, unless paid at a much higher rate than that which was settled by the Ameers, I addressed his Highness on this subject, and received a verbal reply, that the interference should at once be put a stop to.

The Ameers are wholly at a loss to comprehend the reason of the withdrawal of the Agency of Sinde and Beloochistan, as announced to them by Major Outram, and look on it as preparatory to their country being abandoned to the pleasure of the Affghan tribes.

November 9. During the past week, each day has brought a message from one or other of the Ameers, begging that some one might be permitted to remain at Hyderabad in a political capacity.

Their Highnesses do not hesitate to say, that their differences will come to open rupture on the removal of British influence from their court, and Meer Shadad has announced his intention of building a small fort at Meysur as a future residence.

I cannot learn that any purwannas or messages have been sent to the Beloochee tribes, or that the Ameers meditate collecting any troops in consequence of the large assemblage of British force at Sukkur, but their Highnesses continue very uneasy on the subject, and impute any but friendly motives to it.

C. D. MYLNE.

On the 9th instant Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, Minister of Meer Roostum Khan, waited upon Major-General Sir C. Napier, and expressed the desire of his master for a meeting. This was settled to take place at Roree on the morning of the 14th instant: subsequent excuses of illness on the part of the Ameer were made for the meeting not taking place. The inclosed memoranda of intelligence, dated the 12th and 13th instant, show fully, however, the real cause and the feelings of the Upper Sinde Ameers.

Meer Ali Moorad Khan having reached Bubberlow on the morning of the 12th, and having sent his agent to express his desire to meet the General, was answered that, arrangements for a meeting with the Rais of the family being still pending, a reply could not be at present given.

Meer Shah Newaz Khan having expressed a desire to quit Shikarpore and return to his country, was informed by order of the General, that he was at liberty to do so, forfeiting the salary he enjoys from the British Government. He has determined, however, upon doing so, and he moved out of Shikarpore.

Meer Jan Khan, the confidential agent of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, deputed to Khyrpore, having sent his confidential servant to request a meeting with Sir C. Napier, was informed that the General would be

happy to see his master on the morning of the 13th. Meer Jan Khan, however, not having kept his engagement, has been written to, and made acquainted that the General is anxious to be civil to all, but if parties do not keep their appointments, he will not allow them to trifle with his time.

E. J. BROWN.

No. 404.

Intelligence from Sukkur, November 12, 1842.

MY report of yesterday mentioned the intention of Meer Roostum to leave Khyrpore for Roree in a day or two, for the purpose of having an interview with the General. At 8 P.M. of the evening of the 10th, the following chiefs sat in council (at which Futteh Mahomed Ghoree was not allowed to be present), viz: Meer Roostum, Meer Ali Moorad, Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Ali Murdan, Meer Jan Khan, Meer Shere Mahomed. The chiefs addressed themselves to Meer Roostum, saying, "You have, agreeably to the advice you have received from Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, expressed your intention of visiting Roree and consulting with the General, it is our decided opinion that if you attend to that man's (Futteh Mahomed) advice, we shall all be betrayed." Meer Ali Moorad said, "You must delay your departure until I have been to Bubberlow; thence I will send my vakeel to the General, who will ascertain every thing that is going on there, and on his return I will send you a letter, and, if needful, you and the chiefs can all come together. If the General makes any demands on the part of the British Government for money or territory, or asserts his intention of seizing any portion of it by force of arms, I will give him a clear and decided answer of denial, and we will immediately entrust the country to the safe-keeping of the Beloochees, dividing it into certain portions for the safeguard of certain tribes." Meer Mahomed Hoossein has written to call in the Boordee chiefs, Shere Mahomed Boordee and Emaum Buksh Juttooee, to confer with them. Meer Nusseer Khan has taken into his service a Patan from Mooltan, with 70 horsemen. Meer Ali Akbar is on his way in from Oobawurra with about 1,000 men. Meer Mahomed Hoossein, now united with Meer Ali Moorad, remains at Mungulwalla, by advice, for the purpose of collecting the Beloochees in that quarter. It is the intention of Meer Jan Khan, when the chiefs approach Roree, to send for the Sowcars Jeth Sing and Chuttroo Mull, and to bestow loongees on them, and send them back to Shikarpore with honor.

November 13, 1842.

After Meer Ali Moorad had left for Bubberlow, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree went to Meer Roostum to try and induce him to come to Roree, as originally intended. Meer Roostum told him that, by the advice of the chiefs he had altered his intention, and did not now purpose leaving Khyrpore; that Meer Ali Moorad had, by general consent, been invested with full powers to treat with the English General, and that the Talpoorees intended to abide by his decision, whether it be for friendship or hostility. If you have anything to say, you will place yourself under Ali Moorad's orders. In consequence of these instructions, Futteh Mahomed went to Bubberlow the evening before last, and, by direction of Meer Ali Moorad, proceeded on to Roree, where he arrived yesterday morning, for the purpose of keeping him acquainted with whatever is going on in this quarter, and he may be expected to-day at the Agency, to announce this foregoing arrangement. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan, brother of Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, is associated with Meer Ali Moorad for treating on any matters affecting the Ameers, and will arrive in Bubberlow to-day, and these chiefs expect to meet the General at Abad, about 1¼ koss from Roree, to-morrow.

Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad has written to Meer Roostum to be of good cheer, that he is sending off without delay to his assistance a force under Meer Hoossein Ali his son, and Meer Hoossein Ali, son of the late Meer Noor Mahomed. This has been done in consequence of Meer Roostum having taunted him with his lukewarm conduct on a former occasion when his army fought at Sukkur with Shah Shooja's and was defeated; he begged that in

the event of hostilities this time, the Hyderabad contingent should be ready for action and not arrive days after the fight.

Meer Shere Mahomed has been constituted the chief of the forces in the Hyderabad direction, and has announced his intention of furnishing, as his quota of fighting men, 16,000, independent of any other Ameers, and mentions Shah Bunder, somewhere near Tatta, as his rendezvous in case of hostilities being determined on. Meer Roostum sent a letter by Futteh Mahomed to Jeth Sing, saying, that by desire of the other chiefs, he had not adopted Jeth Sing's advice of seeking a meeting with the General in Roree, as in case of any misunderstanding in the course of negotiations it might so happen that he, Meer Roostum, might be made a prisoner, he therefore had determined to avoid any unpleasant contingency of that kind. Jeth Sing replies, "I cannot be security that such might not occur, but my belief is that the English Sahib has no idea of the kind, and further that, as the head of the Talpoorees, it would have been better if you had decided on meeting the head representative of the British Government."

Mahomed Ali Syud, brother of Syud Akbar Ali, went yesterday to call on Futteh Mahomed Ghoree in Roree. In the course of conversation he said, "Why should the Ameer be under any apprehension of the English in Sinde; they have quite enough to employ their attention near Ferozepore; the steam boat has only just returned from delivering shot, powder, &c., at Chachur, for transport to Ferozepore, and in a few days you will see a great portion of the force now here proceed on its march to Ferozepore accompanied by guns, ammunition, &c., required at that place; if the Ameers put a bold face on and are united, the English will never dare to move out of Sukkur."

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 405.

Intelligence from Hyderabad, November 10 *to* 15, 1842.

November 10*th.* As the Ameers are about to proceed to their hunting seats, I waited on them to take leave accompanied by Dr. Leith. Their Highnesses were kind enough to express themselves as sorry, on personal grounds, that Dr. Leith and I were soon to leave Hyderabad.

At Meer Nusseer's, where Meers Meer Mahomed and Shadad likewise were, their Highnesses considered themselves slighted by the removal of a Resident Agent; that, when Colonel Pottinger first came, the point he chiefly insisted on, was the presence of a European officer at Hyderabad; that, afterwards, a passage for the Army of Affghanistan was demanded, and a force quartered in their country; and now, the Agent, to whom they look for every thing, is taken away. Their Highnesses said they would write, and by that, they might be spared this deprivation; I replied that I could only report what their Highnesses had said, but that in the meantime, the instructions I had received were peremptory to close my establishment on the 15th instant.

12th. Addressed their Highnesses Meers Nusseer and Hoossein Ali Khans, on the subject of boats detained for tollage by the kardars of Ghorabaree, and Tatta. Meer Sobdar was good enough to send his son Meer Mahomed Ali to take leave of me.

13th. Akhoond Buchal has returned from Khyrpore; he brings a message from Meer Roostum Khan, taunting the Lower Sinde Ameers for their supineness in not collecting troops, when so large a body of men is assembled at Sukkur, to oppose which the Upper Sinde Ameers are prepared.

The message goes to state that the English meditate treachery.

The Jam of the Jockyas who is at present at Hyderabad, has been, I am informed, enjoined to look after the country between this and Kurachee, but with the exception of the Chandias, I cannot learn that any of the Belooch tribes have been warned.

Meers Meer Mahomed Nusseer and Shahdad Khans, are now at their hunting seats, and it is on these occasions that their plans are formed.

14th. Received a most satisfactory reply from Meer Hoossein Ali to my letter on the subject of boats stopped by his Highness's kardar at Tatta.

Meer Nusseer Khan's brother Mahomed Khan, and Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee called to take leave of me in the name of Meer Mahomed, Nusseer, and Shahdad Khans.

This day the Lower Sinde Agency closes.

J. OUTRAM.

No. 406.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, November* 14, 1842.

I RECEIVED this morning your letter of the 5th instant, and at the same time a digest of intelligence from Sukkur, from Major Outram.

If the intelligence in this digest can be depended upon, I hardly think that you will be able to carry the instructions, lately transmitted to you, into execution.

If you should deem it advisable to have any larger force at your disposal than that you now have, I will send it to you; but, unless the regiments which are come out of Affghanistan are really as much weakened by sickness as the Ameers are made to believe, I apprehend that you have an ample force for all purposes.

The designs of the Ameers would seem, by the intelligence transmitted, to be of a "defensive character only;" but I know that the least sign of hesitation on our part would at once convert these defensive preparations into measures of a hostile nature, and that to yield the smallest point in negotiation would have all the effect of a defeat in the field.

I adhere to my original intention with respect to the Ameers. If any one of them commits an overt act of hostility, his possessions shall be altogether confiscated, and he shall depend upon the charity of his own family for his future subsistence. The example of punishment shall produce an effect throughout all India, calculated to deter any chief within its limits from encountering the just resentment of the British Government, while the reward bestowed upon our faithful ally the Khan of Bhawulpore, will tend to confirm all our allies in the loyal observance of their engagements.

I have, &c.,

ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 407.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Simla, November* 14, 1842.

I THINK the disposition manifested by the Ameers will, whether we should be compelled to use force or not, render necessary the presence in Sinde, during the next hot weather, of a larger body of troops than I had hoped would be required; and we must at once consider where they can be best placed with a view to the efficient maintenance of our interests, and, at the same time, with a view to the preservation of their own health.

I dread the effect of the extreme heat of Sukkur, and I should apprehend that, as respects the Ameers of Hyderabad, the concentration of a considerable force at Kurachee, which is healthy, would have more effect than the presence of a large body of troops at Sukkur. In the event of the occupation of either place by a much larger force than has hitherto been stationed there, some previous preparations must be made for their accommodation; and you will have the goodness to suggest what should, in your opinion, be done, as soon as the state of affairs in Sinde shall have assumed such a form as to enable you to see a little into the future. You will, in the mean time, however, understand that you are fully authorized

to adopt at once any measure which you may deem to be required for the preservation of the health and efficiency of your troops.

I have, &c.,

ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 408.

Intelligence from Sinde, November 15 to 20, 1842.

A BELOOCH horseman sent by me to the neighbourhood of Larkhana, to ascertain, by actual observation, what is going on in that quarter, has this day returned. He reports that Mahomed Khan Talpoor, Abdool Reheem Syud, and Said Raz Dewan, were there, and were busily employed in collecting the revenue, and were extorting it with much violence. The jowarree crops had failed in a great degree from blight, and many of the unfortunate cultivators had neither the means of paying in money or in kind. He saw no appearance of a force beyond the few horsemen attached to the persons of the above-mentioned servants of Meer Nusseer Khan, though he is aware that, long since, the fighting men of villages and towns have been warned to be in readiness to obey the call for service, should such be issued, but from such a force he says no very great or prolonged duties could ever be expected; two or three days of absence from their homes, and short commons, would disperse the whole fabric. He heard there that Ahmed Khan Lugharee, with Meer Nusseer Khan's son and nephew, had reached Lall Shah Baugh, and that they had several thousand men with them, and were *en route* for Khyrpore. He says that reports reach Sukkur, that Jeth Mull is collecting men near Shikarpore, but he has not more than fifty horsemen, and he is raising men by fifteen and sixteen at a time, to defend the villages in the vicinity of the desert from the Belooch plunderers that may be expected on our withdrawal from the country. Noor Mahomed Brahooee of Mittree says, that a horseman, arrived in four days from Dadur, reports that he had come to Dadur with Mahomed Saddeeg of Shawl, who was on his way to take possession of Sebee and Kujjuk, and that the Ameers had sent pressing solicitations to him to repair to Khyrpore, where they would receive him with honour and liberal service. Noor Mahomed states that Patan horsemen cross the river daily in small bodies, and obtain immediate service with the Ameers. Meer Roostum sent Meer Nusseer Khan to bring Meer Mahomed Hoossein with him to meet the General. Mahomed Hoossein declined, and expressed his disapproval of his father and the other Ameers being guided by the advice of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree. No good could accrue to the Ameers by attending to such advice. Meer Ali Akbar has joined Meer Roostum; Dewan Doorchund has arrived at Abad with two guns from Khyrpore, to fire salutes. Meer Roostum has a force of 2,500 men with him in Abad. Among the Ameers the same vaunting conversation obtains with respect to what they will do, in case approaching negotiations should not be agreeable to them. The treaty paper made with the Ameers, and placed in the custody of Meer Mahomed Hoossein, was demanded of him, but he refused to deliver it up, while Futteh Mahomed Ghoree should be in any way consulted.

November 16. Since yesterday's report, I understand that Meer Mahomed Hoossein has sent 700 men to join Meer Roostum's escort at Abad, now amounting to 3,200 men. The chiefs are very much dissatisfied with Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, for having induced Meer Roostum to leave Khyrpore, in expectation of a visit from the General, and their present intention is, in case there is no interview to-morrow, to go to Puttunnee, one coss from Abad to Shikar, and thence to Khyrpore. Jeth Mull arrived this morning from Shikarpore, having been called in by Meer Jan Khan. Meer Ali Moorad has written to say that he will not come to the interview, but if Meer Roostum require him to do so, he will send a force under his son Meer Shah Newaby.

November 18. Futteh Mahomed, Mullah Mahomed, went yesterday and announced to the Ameers at Abad, that the General was not coming to meet them, as he had no leisure, being engaged in getting off troops required at Ferozepore. The Ameers replied, "what does it signify; however, he cannot be very friendly, considering that we have been here so many days." They immediately ordered

their camp to be removed to Puttunnee. They had a conference there till a late hour last night, and a messenger was sent to Meer Ali Moorad (who reached Bubberlow yesterday), desiring him to meet them in consultation at Khyrpore to-day. During the night a messenger arrived from Hyderabad with a letter from Meer Nusseer Khan, desiring Meer Roostum to be of good cheer, that Meer Jan Khan had been directed to remain with him, and that he would send from the neighbourhood of Hyderabad 15,000 men to join at Khyrpore. The chiefs of the Moomria and Jockeya tribes have been summoned to Hyderabad and treated with great distinction, and valuable presents have been given to them at the same time; the country lying towards Sonmeanee and around Kurachee has been confided to their care. Sawun Mull is enlisting soldiers daily, and the most extensive operations are going on in the fort of Mooltan, and every precaution for a siege is being fulfilled. He is constructing an inner fort, and the repairs of the outer one are going on rapidly.

November 20. As soon as the Ameers reached Khyrpore from Puttannee, horsemen were sent to Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Mahomed Khan, Meer Ahmed Khan, Meer Gholam Mustapha, to desire their attendance, informing them that no doubt could exist that the English intended to attack them, as troops were crossing the river with guns, ammunition, &c., and others were arriving from the direction of Ferozepore; the Ameers resolved on their plans for the safety of the women; and that all the wives of the Beloochees within a coss and a coss and a half all round Khyrpore should be sent into the vicinity of Dejee-ka-kote, and the Ameers' women into the fort. All the aforementioned sundras (or villages) are to be defended by the men of each place; camels have been sent for on account of the kujawahs; however no movement is to be made until Meer Mahomed Hoossein goes into Khyrpore. Purwannas have been sent to the distant villages to send in their men to Khyrpore, and the Ameers say "we have eat and drunk well for many years and enjoyed our Ameeree; if it is the intention of the English to fight with us, without a doubt, they shall find us ready for them." Meer Futteh Mahomed has people sitting on the Roree bank of the river to report the arrival of every boat and its contents, which is reported immediately to Khyrpore.

Meer Mahomed Hoossein did not answer the summonses to attend the Council of the other Ameers in Khyrpore, but sent his son Meer Emaum Buksh with 400 men to Meer Roostum. He strongly dissented from the measure of sending the families from Khyrpore, stating that the English would consider it a preparation for hostilities. His advice was that, in case the English at any time advanced, at the last moment they should cut the throats of all their wives, this act would show them that they were resolved on the most determined resistance. Meer Jan Khan has been sent off to Hyderabad, with dispatch, to desire the Ameers there not to delay one instant in sending their contingent in order that it may be ready. Meer Jan Khan remonstrated, having as he said been particularly deputed to attend on the Khyrpore Ameers in case of any rupture with the English. He was told that there were plenty around the Ameers of equal merit with himself, and that he could be made useful in conveying to the Hyderabad Ameers by word of mouth, the necessity of sending men, instead of letters, at the present juncture. It has been decided that a strong garrison shall be placed in and around Bubberlow,—a large body of men to delay any advance.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 409.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Sukkur, November* 17, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge your Lordship's letters dated 3rd and 4th instant, but which I did not receive till the 12th.

I have delayed replying thereto, in the hopes of procuring a seal of Meer Nusseer Khan; however, I can no longer wait, lest your Lordship should think me idle.

The whole proceedings towards the Ameers now depend, as I construe your decision, upon three things:—

1st. Is the letter of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad to Beebruck Boogtie an authentic letter or a forgery?

2nd. Is the letter of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to the Maharajah Shere Sing an authentic letter or a forgery?

3rd. Did Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, confidential agent of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, assist in the escape of Mahomed Shureef?

With regard to the first of these questions, I have endeavoured to obtain, but as yet without success, an authentic seal of Meer Nusseer Khan's, in order to compare it with that of the intercepted letter, and to submit them both to your Lordship's inspection and decision; because, in so grave a matter, I should feel that it would be extremely presumptuous in me to act upon my own judgment, when in a few days your Lordship's can be obtained.

Major Outram, Major Clibborn, Lieutenant Brown, and the confidential Moonshee hitherto employed in the Political Agency, all assert that the seal is that of Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad. In measuring with a pair of compasses the details of this seal, and those of the Ameer which are in this office, I find that they do not exactly coincide in size and the distance between the letters; but they agree in all other respects; so I am told by those who can read Persian. But the discrepancy which I have observed is accounted for by the circumstance (said to be notorious) that the Ameers have two seals: one is used for occasions of secrecy, that if discovered they may deny it, and adduce their ordinary seal in proof, by pointing out the want of coincidence which I remarked. Now, it is one of these seals that I have been trying to get hold of, and through the same people that intercepted the letter, but they have been unable to obtain one,—a very strong presumptive proof that it is not a forgery of theirs, because the object of the first forgery would be secured by a second, and the instrument would be in their hands. I know one of these people went yesterday to Shikarpore to endeavour to find an impression of Meer Nusseer Khan's secret seal. In short, no one here has a doubt of the authenticity of the letter. But I shall nevertheless endeavour to get a proof seal.

With regard to the letter of Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to the Maharajah Shere Sing, there are doubts, on Major Outram's mind, whether Meer Roostum Khan was privy to this letter or not. But of its having his seal, and being written by his confidential Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, there is no doubt. *Query.* Is the doctrine to be admitted, that if a prince gives his signet and power blindly to his Minister, such folly is to excuse him from the consequences? I think that your Lordship will hardly admit this. You will say that Meer Roostum must be answerable for the acts of his confidential Minister. However, without the original document, which is in the possession of Mr. Clerk, I can form no opinion.

That Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, the confidential Minister of Roostum Khan, did assist in the escape of the Syud Mahomed Shureef, neither Major Outram, nor any one acquainted with the case, doubts. The depositions of the servant (Joomah) are simple, and, to my mind, conclusive. If I have your Lordship's answer, saying that you consider the above sufficient to act upon, I shall lose no time in proposing your draft of the new Treaty to the Ameers. I am perfectly prepared, should they resist, to act in a way which I imagine will bring them to reason, without bloodshed. Not but that I have troops enough (and ready enough) to thrash them heartily, if they resolve to try their strength.

With regard to appointing a Commissioner, I should say, that Major Outram is the most fit person. He has more local knowledge than any man here, and has the most unwearied zeal for the public service. If your Lordship allows me, I would name him to be the Commissioner under my control, to carry the draft of your Lordship's Treaty into effect. should you approve of this, perhaps your Lordship will allow Mr.

Maddock to write to Major Outram at Bombay, where he now is, and I know he would immediately join me here, though I should not wait for his arrival, but proceed to carry your orders into effect, with the assistance of Captain French.

No. 410.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November* 18, 1842.

I HAVE procured, not only a similar seal to that of Meer Nusseer Khan's, but on the cover of the letter to which it is attached is writing known to be that of Chotram, the Ameer's confidential Moonshee. I inclose both this and the treasonable letter. There now remains no question of the fact.

In case your Lordship should not have a translation of the letter in Mr. Clerk's hands, I do myself the honor to inclose one.

I think that nothing is lost by the delay in looking for a seal, because one cannot be too cautious, in securing firm moral ground on which to have the defence of whatever events may arise; and, besides this, the Ameers grow weaker, for delay exhausts their treasury; they cheat their soldiers, who, of course, leave them; and, thirdly, this is the season of fevers along the banks of the Indus, and, if the pride of the Ameers were to produce hostilities, I should have a large hospital on my hands in a few days, and should probably lose many men, both soldiers and camp followers.

An hospital would, from the nature of the country, be very troublesome; indeed it is so in any country; but, if I should be obliged to move on Hyderabad, I must do so either by the road along the river, or that through the desert. To supply comforts for the sick along the last would be difficult, if not impossible; and, along the first, the river would quickly double the size of my hospital. The river is still falling, but must be nearly at the lowest, and then the fevers cease. They are now diminishing, and I am bringing up the 22nd Regiment (Queen's). I have now a sickly camp, but that is inevitable after the long march from Candahar; so that, all things considered, I should have regretted the circumstance, had the Ameers called us out: now they are welcome, the season of health has arrived. All these considerations have made me, hitherto, avoid pushing the Ameers hard upon any point, and I am in hopes that your Lordship will approve of my motives.

Should the Ameers resolve to take the field (as their collecting troops seems to indicate), I have made up my mind to cross the Indus at once, and march to Hyderabad by land. My objections to dropping down the river in boats are as follows:—

1. The water is so low that boats get along with difficulty, even when not heavily laden.

2. If filled with troops, guns, ammunition, they would be heavily laden, even below their proper draft of water, and would not only ground, but stick for days, and even require to discharge cargo.

3. I do not think I could float much above a thousand men with guns, &c., and half might stick in the mud, in reach of matchlocks from the banks.

4. Nothing could be gained by rapidity in this case, even if all went down the stream without accident. The enemy has no position to fortify, no works that he can strengthen, no stronger place to retire to. It is, therefore, the same whether we go in three days or in thirteen days. But, by land, we march complete and compact, and beat or be beaten altogether. Whereas, if crowded in boats for miles along the river, and half stuck in the shallows, and peppered by matchlocks, some disaster might occur. "Slow and sure" is an adage which, I think, is suited to my position, if hostility should occur. Moreover, in moving by land I take Khyrpore at once, and throw myself in the middle of all communica-

tion between the northern and southern Ameers, for there need be no slowness when once we take the field, if, unfortunately, the folly of the Ameers goes to that length.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 411.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

Sir, *Simla, November* 19, 1842.

I AM directed to transmit, for your information, the accompanying copy of a letter from the Envoy to the Court of Lahore, dated 12th instant, and its inclosures, on the subject of certain intercepted letters sent to him by Major Outram.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 412.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Simla, November* 19 (*No.* 53), 1842.

I CANNOT but apprehend that the Ameers of Hyderabad and Khyrpore will resist the imposition of the terms I have deemed it just and expedient to demand from them, in consequence of the violations of Treaty, and the acts of intended hostility, of which they appear to have been guilty.

8. You will find a full exposition of the case in Major-General Sir Charles Napier's letters to me, and in mine to him.

9. I am satisfied that, in exchanging tribute for territory, in refraining from the acquisition of any territory on or beyond the Indus, which is not required for the purpose of possessing the command of that river, and in granting a great reward to our most faithful ally, the Khan of Bhawulpore, I have acted upon true principles of policy.

10. To make the Ameers feel that the Treaty with us was not to be violated with impunity, was, I thought, absolutely necessary. The British Government can make no concession before a native Power which is collecting troops, nominally for defensive purposes, but which the slightest appearance of wavering on our part would direct to purposes of aggression.

No. 413.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November* 23, 1842.

I THIS day had a meeting with the Ameer Ali Moorad Khan. His object was to know if we would secure to him "the Turban," or chieftaincy. As I have read all the papers on this subject, which are in this office, I was not taken by surprise; and, knowing your Lordship's general policy, I felt no difficulty in replying to him, that your Lordship's intentions were to punish your enemies, and to support your friends in all that was just; that you adhered to treaties; that the treaties with the Ameers obliged us to protect each Ameer in his rights; that the chieftaincy of the Talpoors was Meer Roostum's, during that Ameer's life, and, unless he forfeited the protection of your Lordship, it would be preserved to him, and, at his death, would be transferred to Ali Moorad, if he continued to act loyally towards the British Government: because

such was the Treaty. He answered, that he wanted only to know if we would protect Meer Roostum against him in an intrigue to get the chieftaincy away from him (Ali Moorad), by nominating his son, Meer Mahomed Hoossein, to be chieftain during his (Roostum's) life. My answer was, "That it would be against the Treaty for any one Ameer to defraud another of his right, and, therefore, Meer Roostum would not be permitted by the Governor-General to invest his son with the dignity in question."

He then said that Meer Sobdar of Hyderabad had written to him to say that they two were the only friends of the English, and ought to make a treaty to stand by each other; he asked if I agreed to their doing so. I said, "Yes; you should agree to stand faithful to the English openly; but do not make any secret treaty; it is not required. You have the existing treaties; and the English are sufficiently powerful to make their allies conform to treaties."

I hope what I have said will meet with your Lordship's approbation. It does three things which are desirable.

1. It is just. Ali Moorad has the right to the "Turban" for his own life, after the death of Meer Roostum, and it promises to protect him in this right.

2. It detaches Ali Moorad from any league among the Ameers, and, consequently, diminishes the chance of bloodshed.

3. It lays a train to arrive at a point which I think should be urged, viz., that we should treat with one Ameer, instead of a number. This will simplify our political dealings with these princes, and gradually reduce them to the class of rich noblemen, and their chief will be perfectly dependent on the Government of India, living as he will do, so close to this large station, and I have no doubt that it will quickly be a large town.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 414.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November* 23, 1842.

I HAVE just received from Mr. Clerk the original letters from the Ameer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore to the Maharajah. Of their being authentic original letters, Lieutenant Brown assures me that there cannot be the slightest doubt.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 415.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Buddee, November* 24, 1842.

I HAD the honor of receiving, this morning, your letter of the 17th instant. You are much more competent to decide on the spot, as to the authenticity of the letters attributed to Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Roostum Khan, than I am here, and I am prepared to abide by, and to support, your decision.

2. Undoubtedly, Meer Roostum Khan must be held to be responsible for the acts of his Minister, Futteh Mahomed Ghoree.

3. With respect to the escape of Syud Mahomed Shureef, the evidence of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree's having assisted in that escape, seems to be as conclusive as any evidence likely to be obtained upon any point connected with the conduct of a native chief. If a Government were to wait

in every case of suspected hostility, until it obtained such proof of the hostile intention, as would be sufficient to convict the person suspected in a court of justice, it would in most cases expose itself at once to disgrace and disaster. It is necessary to proceed upon a strong presumption of intended hostility, where hesitation might seriously affect great national interests.

Your force being now collected, I am disposed to think that no delay should take place in communicating to the Ameers, the ultimate decision of the British Government, with respect to the revision of our engagements with them, which their conduct has compelled us to demand.

The heat is so great on the Lower Indus, that it is necessary to take advantage of the earliest period adapted to military operations.

To the employment of Major Outram, as Commissioner for the adjustment of the details of the arrangement, I have no objection; but, as you inform me that he is at Bombay, it will be impossible that he should return in time to be the bearer of the letters you will address to the Ameers. His return to Sinde to adjust the terms of the final settlement will be a step not liable to misinterpretation. To wait for his return would be a step which, to the Ameers, would seem to evince hesitation, and would therefore seriously prejudice the negotiations. But really, of negotiation there should be but little. We make a demand we believe to be just and expedient, and we are prepared to enforce it.

If you should not have detained the brigade under Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, it would be desirable to recall it, or at least to halt it, upon making your demands. I am very desirous of effecting our purpose without bloodshed, and the presence of a preponderating force may enable us to do this.

The statement you have transmitted to me, as to the relative cost of coal and wood for the steamers, renders it impossible to waive the modified demand, as to the right of cutting wood on the banks of the Indus, which you are now instructed to make.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 416.

The Secretary with the Governor-General to Major Outram.

Sir, *Camp, Buddee, November* 24, 1842.

MAJOR-GEN. SIR C. NAPIER having intimated a wish to employ you as a Commissioner for the arrangement of the details of a revised Treaty, which is to be proposed to the Ameers of Sinde, I am directed to inform you that the Governor-General will sanction any such appointment, and you will hold yourself in readiness to proceed to join the Major-General, as soon as you may receive from him the notification of his requiring your services.

I have, &c.,
T. H. MADDOCK.

No. 417.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Camp, Nalaghur, November* 25, 1842.

I RECEIVED this morning, your letter of the 18th. Your plan, if you should be compelled to resort to hostilities, is manifestly best.

Your reasons for not having desired to make a forward movement earlier, are simple. It is desirable that, in the event of your moving, you should have all the troops near the Sinde frontier at your disposal. I, therefore, inclose letters, directing the officers commanding at Deesa, and in Cutch, to obey any orders they may receive from you.

I shall acquaint the Bombay Government that this authority has been given to you. I will, if you desire it, send all the Bombay troops which are with General Nott's force, towards Sukkur, as soon as they cross the Sutledj, without detaining them a day in the camp at Ferozepore, and indeed, it might be possible not to move them towards Ferozepore at all.

I will request the Commander-in-chief to move, if he can, a regiment of cavalry a march or two down the Sutledj from the camp at Ferozepore, and to give out that it is to move on to Sukkur: and it shall move on, if you want its services.

The boats are getting ready for the 41st Queen's, and it will, I hope, leave Ferozepore by the 8th of January. The troops will all have passed the Sutledj by Christmas-day.

No. 418.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November 26, 1842.*

IN reply to your Lordship's letter, dated 14th instant, relative to my requiring more troops for carrying your treaty into effect, I think I have sufficient. These barbarians are only dangerous when a Commander is careless, and gets his army into a scrape; then these people are active, daring, and very dangerous to an entangled force. I am entirely of your Lordship's opinion, that all the defensive measures of the Ameers are only so, till an opportunity offers of making them offensive. I yesterday had a complaint from a merchant of Bhawulpore, that he had been stopped and made to pay toll by Meer Roostum's Kardar of the river. Several other instances have come to my knowledge, now that this man has had courage to complain; for there seemed to be some doubt among them how far we would support them, or be duped by the Ameers, and leave the plaintiffs to their tender mercies. I resolved at once to put an end to all doubts on the subject, so I had these poor people before me. They told a simple story. They were insolently treated, made to pay toll to the amount of above 100 rupees, and produced the Kardar's receipt and seal of office, which is, I am told by the Moonshee, and Lieutenant Brown, and others present, authentic. I made these people make out a list of their expenses, which, added to the toll, amount to about 200 and some odd rupees. I this morning, at day-break, sent off an aide-de-camp and fifty horsemen to Khyrpore, accompanied by the complainants and the letter, of which I send your Lordship a copy; and I have ordered six regiments to be ready to move at a moment's notice, with which I will cross the river, and march upon Khyrpore, if my messenger returns either insulted, or with a refusal to comply with the conditions proposed. I have desired him to wait but two hours for his answer. I keep this open till his return.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

Six o'clock. My aide-de-camp has returned; he gave the letter to Meer Roostum Khan, who, after a little consultation, paid down the money, and wrote me a letter of high-flown Persian compliments, saying he perfectly understood my letter, and would send in the transgressing Kardar, which I suspect he will try to evade doing. However, I will not allow of this. I have no doubt but there will be an end of the tolls from this time out. When the Kardar comes, I will give him a lecture and send him home.

No. 419.

Sir C. Napier to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore.

Sukkur, November 26, 1842.

A MERCHANT has been made to pay toll by your Kardar named Kaymah, at Dowlutpore.

This is a breach of Article VIII of the Treaty. It has taken place several times, but this is the first complaint that has been laid before me. I would not have suffered the breach of treaty in a single instance, had I been aware of it; and every man who makes a well-founded complaint to me shall still have redress. The sufferers in the present case accompany the bearer of this letter, who is one of my aides-de-camp, and he has my orders to insist upon your Highness' repaying the toll levied by your Kardar, and also all the expenses to which the sufferers have been exposed, amounting to the sum of 238 rupees.

I further insist upon the offending Kardar being sent a prisoner to my head-quarters at Sukkur, within the space of five days, to be dealt with as I shall determine. Unless your Highness doth immediately comply with these demands, I shall consider that these various and insulting violations of the Treaty have been committed with your sanction, and I shall treat you as an enemy. These are the orders of the Governor-General.

No. 420.

Intelligence from Sinde, November 21*st to* 29*th,* 1842.

ON the 23rd instant, at the request of Meer Ali Moorad Khan, Major General Sir C. Napier crossed the river to meet his Highness. After the usual formalities, the Ameer asked for a few minutes' private conversation which were granted, the subject of which has elsewhere been reported.

The Major-General proceeded to Shikarpore on the 24th instant, and returned on the 25th instant. A fresh case of tolls being levied by the Kardar of Meer Roostum Khan, on goods of a merchant of Bhawulpore in transit on the river, near Subzulkote, having occurred, the Major-General addressed the Ameer, pointing out the illegality of the act, sending his letter and the petitioners to Khyrpore with his Aide-de-camp, Mr. Richardson. The Ameer was called upon to return the toll levied, and all losses the petitioners had been put to by the detention, &c., and further to send within five days to Sukkur, the offending Kardar, to be dealt with as the Major-General may direct. The money has been restored, and the presence of the Kardar has been promised.

On the morning of the 29th, Meer Ali Moorad came to Sukkur to be present at a review of all the troops under the Major-General. The Ameer appeared much pleased at the attention paid him.

The usual memorandum of intelligence, relative to the feelings of the Ameers is annexed, but the items relative to Meer Ali Moorad Khan should be viewed with caution, the informant being evidently inimical to him.

No intelligence has been received during the past week from Hyderabad, and but little of moment has occurred in Upper Sinde.

C. NAPIER.

Major Clibborn writes:—

November 21, 1842.—Meer Ali Moorad has returned to Dejee-ka-kote to make some preparations for the women, in case of their seeking refuge in his fort. Futteh Mahomed left Roree for Khyrpore yesterday; he returned again this evening.

November 22.—Bhadoor Ali Shah Syud recommends the Ameers to depute him to the Governor-General, to complain against the General for not meeting them at Abad; he says he will represent their grievances in such strong terms that the General must be recalled. Meer Roostum says he will take the subject into consideration. The Ameers have lately taken into service a Hindoostanee Golundauze, who tells them that he will work their guns in such a manner that the like was never seen before. Meer Ali Moorad has sent his tents and two guns to Roree, and it is said, intends to seek an interview with the General in the course of three days hence, stopping at Khyrpore to have an interview with Meer Roostum. Jara Mull, Gomashta of Mirsungshye, of Shikarpore, having a shop in the Sudder Bazaar, and some transactions in trade with Bote Sing and Roop Chund, was induced by them to go on the water, in a Zoruck, to hear some Nautch girls, and look at Roree afterwards; they pulled up on the opposite bank of the river, and towards evening they landed and went into Roree, where Roop Chund and Bote Sing made a claim of 22,000 rupees against Jara Mull, and had him placed a prisoner by Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, in the house of Jeth Sing and Chuttroo Mull, where he now is.

November 24.—Meer Ali Moorad, by the advice of Meer Roostum and the other Ameers, after his interview with the General, passed on to Rahousee, ostensibly, to hunt at Shah Beila, really, to have an opportunity of judging of the amount of the force in the different camps on his way. The day before yesterday Meer Mahomed Hoossein came into Khyrpore to see his father, with 1,000 men and 2 guns. Meer Roostum was much pleased. In the course of conversation Meer Roostum mentioned, that he had placed the half of the Pobawarrah pergunnas at Mahomed Hoossein's disposal, but there were some jagheers of his son, Dost Mahomed, that he hoped Mahomed Hoossein would not interfere with. The mother of Dost Mahomed is said to be very beautiful, and the Meer has a great regard for her, and this son. Meer Mahomed Hoossein replied, that he would make no exceptions in favour of any one, that he would have all or nothing. Meer Roostum was much incensed at this reply, and the result was another rupture. Meer Mahomed Hoossein returned with his men and guns to Mungulwallee. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan reported, that the cavalry regiment at Roree was encamped across the road to the fort of Mungnee, (Nusseer Khan's,) and desired that more men and ammunition should be sent to him; accordingly two camel-loads of powder, and two of lead, were sent, and some men. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree goes occasionally to the servants of Colonel Pattle, 9th cavalry, to pump out the intentions of the English. He writes to Meer Roostum to be under no apprehension, as the Bengal regiments are certainly to leave for Ferozepore in a few days hence. On the other hand, Mahomed Shah, the servant of Bhadoor Ali Shah, living in Syud Abbas Ali Shah's house, writes daily, for Meer Nusseer Khan's information, to warn them to be on their guard as the English will certainly bear down on them at Khyrpore, and that there is no intention of the troops moving on to Ferozepore. Syud Abbas Ali and Moonshee Moideen supply this man with such information as he receives. Mahomed Khan Talpoor has written to Jeth Sing and Chuttroo Mull, desiring them to keep him informed of the plans and force of the English; they replied, that they had instructed the messenger, who would inform him of every thing occurring and intended in Sukkur. Informant states that the Ameers have given strict orders to all the camel men and camel owners, not to supply camels for contract to the English without their permission. Four boats of Pokul Doss of Bhawulpore, have been stopped at Dowlutpore, to pay Massaal on ghee and grain coming to the Sukkur Bazaar.

November 26.—Meer Ali Moorad, writing to Meer Roostum, tells him that he has seen the whole English force, and that the Ameers need not be under any apprehension to encounter it, and that they may remain in perfect security at Khyrpore. Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Ali Murdan went the day before yesterday with a Dustkhat of Meer Roostum's to persuade his son Mahomed Hoossein to return from

Mungulwallee to Khyrpore; they yesterday returned, he having rejected all advances towards a reconciliation; the consequence is, that Meer Roostum himself contemplates going to Mungulwallee to try and arrange matters. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan is now strong in the fort of Mungree, having guns, ammunition, and a garrison, ready for the English if they approach Khyrpore. Bubberlow is also in a state of defence.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 421.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, November* 30, 1842.

I HAVE just been honored with your Lordship's letter of the 24th instant.

My conviction is, that every letter was really written by the Ameers, and that nothing is wanted, but an opportunity, to attack us—I mean as regards Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and Roostum Khan of Khyrpore. I have made every preparation to act upon the receipt of your Lordship's answer to my letter. The treaty and notes have been translated, and go off to-morrow. 4000 infantry, 1000 cavalry, and twenty pieces of cannon are ready to cross the river; 300 camels are across, with a strong force, and all the grain, under pretence of preparing for the Bengal troops' march to Ferozepore. I had no intention of waiting for Major Outram's arrival, because till we get into the details of the Treaty I do not want assistance; as your Lordship has been so good as not to give me a colleague, I mean to consult no one; I see my way clearly. I have calculated upon the average of the thermometer being under 80° till April, when it will rise. The mean heat last March was 71°, the average maximum was only 83°; therefore, taking the safe side, I have cool weather for military operations till 1st April, and even April would not be very dangerous. This gives me above three months clear, with cool northerly and easterly winds, which is enough, and more than enough to decide any quarrel with the Ameers, before the hot weather.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

No. 422.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 1, 1842.

I HAVE this moment been honored with your Lordship's letter of the 25th instant, and have to express my thanks for your Lordship's confidence and vigorous support. I am perfectly confident in the troops under my command being equal to any emergency, and feel assured I shall have no occasion for the Bombay troops under General Nott, nor any movement of the cavalry. The Sinde horse, which I have in this cantonment, and the 9th light cavalry, will give me about 1000 horse available for action, as I shall have few convoys, for, though I would not use the river for the troops, it is everything for supplies. I should keep the steamers on my flank all the way under our protection. Lieutenant Stanley was to have left this for Hyderabad with the new Treaty to-day, but an accident to the machinery will detain the steamer till to-morrow. I shall send Captain French to Khyrpore the day after, so that Stanley may give Nusseer Khan the Treaty before he can hear from Khyrpore, for they will probably send an exaggerated story, and work up the friendly Ameers at Hyderabad to commit themselves before they are aware of the exceptions in their favour. I shall dispatch an express to your Lordship, to say how the two Sindian Courts receive the Treaty. I do not think they have the courage they pretend to.

I went over the ground about Roree yesterday; I suspect it is in every way far superior to Sukkur. A plan shall be made, and transmitted to your Lordship.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 423.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Loodiana, December* 3, 1842.

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23rd ultimo, communicating the substance of your conversation with Ali Moorad Khan on that day.

I entirely approve of your reply to the Ameer.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 424.

The Governor-General to Sir Napier.

General, *Camp, Boondull, December* 4, 1842.

I RECEIVED last night your letter of the 26th ultimo, relating to your communication to Meer Roostum Khan of Khyrpore, on the subject of his taking toll on the Indus, in contravention of the treaty, and inclosing a copy of your letter to him.

I entirely approve of the letter, and of your whole conduct upon this occasion.

As long as you have six regiments ready to support your just demands, I am inclined to think that they will be acceded to, as they have been in this instance; and I am willing to hope that, with these aids to your negotiation, you may be able to make a settlement now without the use of force; but I very much fear that, until our force has been actually felt, there will be no permanent observance of the existing treaty, or of any new treaty we may make.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 425.

Intelligence from Sinde, November 30 *to December* 6.

ON the 30th ultimo, Mayut Ali, the son of the Minister of Khyrpore, reached Roree, with messages from Meer Roostum Khan, and was informed by the Major-General that in a few days an officer would be deputed to the Khyrpore Durbar, and would bear any messages the Ameer might wish to deliver.

On the 2nd instant Lieutenant Stanley, officiating Aide-de-camp, quitted Sukkur in a steamer, being the bearer of a letter from the Major-General to the address of the Hyderabad Durbar, forwarding for the acceptance and guidance of the Ameers a translation of a new Treaty with those Chiefs ordered by the Governor-General of India. On the 4th instant Captain French, officiating Aide-de-camp, proceeded to Khyrpore, to deliver to the Ameers the draft of the new Treaty with those chiefs, compliance with the terms of which was promised, and vakeels arranged to be sent to wait upon the General,

On the morning of the 6th instant, Durya Khan Jellabanee and Lalla Wishundass waited upon the General, but very little beyond general pro-

fessions of the good feeling of the Ameers of Upper Sinde towards the British Government was elicited from them.

Friendly letters have been received during the week from Meers Sobdar Khan and Hoossein Ali Khan, and suitable replies returned.

No intelligence has been received from Lower Sinde.

C. NAPIER.

Major Clibborn writes:—

November 30.—Some person in the Sudder Bazaar sent a Sinde letter to Bumboo Mull Bhattea Sowcar, in Khyrpore, stating that the English certainly intended to advance on Khyrpore with guns, &c., and to keep a sharp look-out. The above Sowcar laid the chit before Meer Roostum, which caused much anxiety to the Ameer. He immediately wrote to call Meer Mahomed Hoossein into Khyrpore, and sent Inayut Ali, Futteh Mahomed's son, to Bubberlow, to request Meer Ali Moorad's presence. He also assembled all the Belooch chiefs, with the exception of Mahabut Khan Murree, to whom he dispatched his son, Meer Shere Mahomed. Meer Roostum addressed the chiefs, saying, "See, the English, having been turned out of Affghanistan and eaten dirt, have been killed so far on their return to India. Their force is large, and if they will but leave Sinde I shall meet all their demands for money, even to the jewellery of our women. If, on the contrary, they do not leave Sukkur and Sinde, and advance on Khyrpore, we must fight them." The Belooch chiefs assented to all he said, and placed their hands on the Koran in confirmation of their determination to abide by Meer Roostum's orders. Meer Roostum has restored all Meer Mahomed Hoossein's disputed lands. Meer Mahomed Hoossein has signified his intention of coming into Khyrpore as soon as he has seen his son, Meer Sohrab, who is dangerously ill in Abad, near Bhootie. When Mr. Richardson arrived in Khyrpore to deliver the General's letter, respecting the levy of taxes on boats at Dowlutpore and Cushmoor, by Meer Roostum's order, 256 rupees were given him on that account, and a bukshish of 200 rupees, and six pots of sugar-candy, were given to Moonshee Moideen.

December 1.—Yesterday, Meer Mahomed Hoossein with 2 guns, and about 2,000 Beloochees (Shadadpooras), arrived in Khyrpore, to the great satisfaction of Meer Roostum. Meer Ali Moorad also reached Khyrpore the evening before. It is said that Meer Roostum has arranged for investing Meer Mahomed Hoossein with the puggree of authority immediately. Futteh Mahomed Ghoree is a strong dissentient to the measure. Since the arrival of Meer Ali Moorad he has directed their attention to the better equipment of their guns, and more of the best horses have been appropriated for them, and the ammunition is in preparation for boxes to place on carriages. They (the Ameers) continue to say that they will yield to all demands for money, but if they are hardly pressed on points touching their honor, that they will resist with swords in their hands. Lalla Beylee Ram, the Kardar of Boordee, has arranged with Meer Roostum to raise the whole of the Hill Beloochees in the direction of the Boordee country, with whom he professes to have great influence. Meer Roostum presented him with a horse, a sword, and loonghees, and he has repaired to Boordee Kur, to prepare for raising the country. Inayut Ali, son of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, has come into Roree to deliver up Rochub and other Izzardars to the General, agreeably to his demand.

December 2.—At a meeting of the Talpoor chiefs at Khyrpore, the day before yesterday, it was decided that Meer Mahomed Hoossein should be invested with the supreme authority, Meer Roostum abdicating in his favor on the 1st of Zilcaz (5th December). In the mean time all authority over the different departments has been entrusted to him. Syud Goolam Ali Shah of Roree is to place the Puggree on Meer Mahomed Hoossein's head on the 5th instant. Meer Mahomed Hoossein

told his father, Meer Roostum, that he was now old and incapable of conducting the affairs of state, and too much inclined to yield to the demands of the English; that he had better sit quietly in his house, and withdraw himself from public business; that it was his (Meer Mahomed Hoossein's) intention, to resist any encroachment of the English. Horsemen have been dispatched in various directions with perwannas to raise and assemble the Beloochees, and direct them to repair to the vicinity of Khyrpore. Ali Moorad is gone to Dejee-ka-kote. Accounts from Cutchee state that the Beloochees are plundering in all directions, and murdering people for the clothes on their backs.

December 3.—Meer Mahomed Khan and Meer Chakur Khan arrived yesterday in Khyrpore with 100 horse to make their salaams to Meer Mahomed Hoossein, and also to consult and advise with him. Jumaul Khan Chandia, brother of Wullee Mahomed Khan, arrived with 200 horse, and the force in Khyrpore is being augmented daily: no armed man or Beloochee who arrives in Khyrpore now is allowed to leave, without taking service, except in particular cases. Meer Ali Murdan, son of Meer Roostum, has left Khyrpore and gone to Gaggree, three coss from Khyrpore, being dissatisfied at Meer Mahomed Hoossein's preferment. Kazee Mahomed Bakur has followed him to bring him back to Khyrpore. Meer Mahomed Hoossein is collecting a very large force, and he declares if the English force approaches Khyrpore, that he will decidedly give it battle; and perwannas directing the Belooch tribes to plunder and slay all British soldiers, sepoys, and stragglers, have been issued by Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore. Meer Mahomed Hoossein expends daily 1,000 rupees in food for the new levies. The Beloochees are expected to harass our forces in such a way that we shall exclaim, "What infernal devils these are! What have we done to bring down upon us such a nest of hornets?" Inayut Ali Khan and Lalla Sookanund are both placed in Roree to observe the English force, and convey instant information of all its doings. Whatever camels, whether of Beloochees, or merchants, arrive in Khyrpore, are immediately seized, and a large number are being collected there by violence. The following information is received from my Belooch horseman, who left Khyrpore at 10 o'clock A.M., this day. The day before I left, the General paraded the troops before Meer Ali Moorad. That same night Meer Ali Moorad reached Khyrpore; he went and paid his compliments to Meer Roostum; he put up in the house of Meer Ali Murdan, but did not make his salaam to Meer Mahomed Hoossein, but left Khyrpore the next day at 2 o'clock for Dejee-ka-kote, and at the same time Meer Ali Murdan mounted his horse and took his departure from Khyrpore for Gaggree and Bhootee, where he still is. After leaving Sukkur, Meer Ali Moorad discharged Shere Boohurd Khan and Hajee Abdoola Khan, and a number of Sikh and Patan horse, all of whom have been immediately taken into Meer Mahomed Hoossein's service and Meer Nusseer Khan's service; and within the last five days whatever man offers for service is immediately entertained, and the general feeling and persuasion in Khyrpore is that, if the English approach Khyrpore, or make any demand for territory, it is Meer Mahomed Hoossein's determination to resist. Yesterday there was a general report in Khyrpore, that the English were retiring from Shikarpore, and that many of the bungalows had been set fire to or pulled down. The day that the grand parade was in Sukkur the whole town of Khyrpore was in commotion, and camels and kujawahs were lading with goods and women, which was arrested by the arrival of Meer Mahomed Hoossein, who proclaimed his intention of chastising any party who should attempt to disturb the peace of the city. Informant says, "I know these Beloochees and Talpoorees, and they will bluster and talk a great deal; but whenever the English force appears, they will give in, and agree to everything."

December 5.—Three British officers reached Khyrpore yesterday, and delivered the General's letter and a draft of a new Treaty to the Ameers. Meer Wullee Mahomed, brother of Meer Nusseer Khan, was ready to

meet them, and conduct them to the presence of the Ameers. Having read the contents of the paper, the Ameers said that they would send a confidential person to settle with the General in Sukkur. Messengers were sent off with all haste to Meer Ali Moorad at Dejee; also Meer Ali Murdan at Gaggree. The latter arrived in Khyrpore. Messengers have also been sent in all directions to assemble the Beloochees, and also to all the Kardars to hasten the collection of revenue. Jumaul Khan Chandia, brother of Wullee Mahomed, has persuaded the Ameers, that he will cast such a charm over the guns and muskets of the English that their discharge shall be like so much water! Informant says, that the Ameers will dissemble as long as they can, and that they really have no intention of yielding up territory, if they can persuade the whole to be united. Moreover, unless the General proclaims to the Ryots that certain lands are to come under British rule the Ameers' Kardars will have wrung from them not only the revenue for the present crops, but also for the rubbee crops, which will ripen six months hence.

December 6.—The Ameers of Khyrpore have deputed Durrya Khan Jellabanee and Lalla Wishundass to protest on their parts against the new Treaty. The above persons are adherents of Meer Mahomed Hoossein, the eldest son. They have brought 2,000 rupees with them to give in presents to the head-quarter Moovasties, according as they make themselves useful. The Ameers understand that in eight days from the delivery of the Treaty they are to deliver their final answer. In the mean time messengers have been sent off to Hyderabad, to ascertain the intention of that Court, and if hostile, to solicit instant dispatch to Khyrpore of every man that can be spared; at the same time telling them that they intend to abide by any advice received from Hyderabad. Meer Ali Akbar, Meer Roostum's son, has been sent off with dispatch to Imaumwaw, twelve coss from Subzulkote, to direct all the women and kujawahs to rendezvous on the Nara bordering the Ragistan Desert. Meer Ali Moorad Khan has not paid any attention to the messenger sent to request his attendance at the Durbar in Khyrpore, and the opinion prevails, that he has allied himself with the English. Perwannas have been sent in all directions to the Beloochees requiring their attendance at Khyrpore. Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan publicly express their determination not to yield a foot of ground without disputing it by force. The people in Khyrpore are much down-cast at the intelligence of the last few days.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 426

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 7, 1842.

I HAVE received a deputation from the Ameers of Khyrpore. They profess perfect submission, but deny any conduct, except what has been loyal. I feel very doubtful of these professions. I believe them to be made to gain time, in order to hear from Hyderabad, where the Treaty was delivered on the same day. I will not, therefore, take public possession of Roree, till I hear the answer of the Ameers of Hyderabad. If they all remain quiet, and profess submission, I shall take possession of Roree, and move a portion of the Bengal brigade, or the whole of it (according to circumstances), upon Bhoong Bhara and Subzulkote, till further orders from your Lordship. I hear the Ameers are trying to levy, not only this year's taxes, but those for next year, upon the ryots in those districts. I shall, therefore, issue a proclamation, forbidding the latter to pay taxes beyond the 1st of January, and I shall take care to protect these people, if I can, against an evil which I think very likely to happen, but very difficult to prevent.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

No. 427.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 8, 1842.

THE Ameer of Meerpore seems to have escaped all notice in any treaty. But he pays half a lac of rupees annually; I am told by Lieutenant Brown, that he has always been among our bitter enemies, but we have not any charge substantiated against him. He has no possessions on the banks of the Indus. His territories may be described as a circle circumscribed round the triangle formed by Hyderabad, Omerkote, and Wangar Bazaar, but not including any of those towns. He is independent as a ruler, but his rank is below that of the Ameers of Hyderabad.

There are two towns named Meerpore. He lives in that which is east of Hyderabad, on the road to Omerkote. He is 38,775 rupees in our debt, and will be 50,000 more in our debt next February.

His revenue amounts to about five lacs. It is my opinion that, at present, it will be as well to let this tribute go on, and in the course of adjusting the Treaty, something may occur that will enable your Lordship to remit this tribute, in exchange for land. But I am unable, as yet, to discover why he pays tribute at all.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 428.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 9, 1842.

I HAVE just received a letter from Lieutenant Stanley, who presented the Treaty to the Ameers of Hyderabad on the 6th instant. He thinks they will not resist. They have sent vakeels to me: when these arrive, if the answer be favourable to peace, I can move the Bengal troops towards Subzulkote. Ali Moorad has detached himself from the adverse party as I expected.

At the same time they have discharged no troops, therefore I do not believe in a single word they say. Their hostility and cunning are on a par. When I reflect upon these qualities, and that they are regularly drunk with "bhang" every day after 3 o'clock, it is by no means improbable that they might make a night attack on our camp at Roree, denying vigorously that they had any knowledge of such a proceeding.

As a precaution against any insult of this nature, I have sent their Highnesses a letter, of which I have the honor to inclose a copy. Knowing what they have to expect, they will scarcely venture on any of these favourite tricks among barbarians.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 429.

Sir C. Napier to the Ameers of Khyrpore.

Sukkur, December 9, 1842.

YOUR submission to the order of the Governor-General, and your friendship for our nation should be beyond doubt, because you have solemnly assured me of the same. We are friends. It is, therefore, right to inform you of strange rumours that reach me. Your subjects (it is said) propose to attack my camp in the night time. This would, of course, be without your knowledge, and also be very foolish, because

my soldiers would slay those who attack them, and, when day dawned, I would march to Khyrpore, transplant the inhabitants to Sukkur, and destroy your capital city, with the exception of your Highnesses' Palace, which I would leave standing alone, as a mark of my respect for your Highnesses, and of my conviction that you have no authority over your subjects. I should also so far intrench upon your Highnesses treasury as to defray the expenses of this operation, because it is just that all Governments should pay for the mischief which their subjects inflict upon their neighbours. I therefore advertize your Highnesses of the destruction which such an attempt on my camp would inevitably draw down upon Khyrpore, in order that you may warn your people against committing any such act of hostility.

No. 430.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Ferozepore, December* 13, 1842.

I HAVE received to-day your letters of the 7th and 8th.

I had not sufficient information, whereon to ground any proposition for any modification of the Treaty with the Ameer of Meerpore, and, therefore, designedly left it unnoticed, which appears, from your account, to have been the most convenient course.

My impression is, that the Ameers of Khyrpore will be quiet, if the Ameers of Hyderabad remain so, but that both will endeavour to gain time, for they seem to be under the double delusion of supposing that our armies were driven out of Affghanistan, and that we are in want of troops at Ferozepore, and they will expect to see your present force weakened by detachments to this camp. Whether they submit, or not, to the terms of the new Treaty, I think it most desirable, that you should require the immediate dispersion of the forces, whatever they may be, which they may have collected, and insist upon your requisition to that effect being complied with, supporting it by the movement of your army. It is very necessary to make all the subjects of the Ameers see that their masters stand in awe of us; and the new settlement must be firmly established, before the great heats render movements on our own part impracticable. We cannot always maintain fifteen battalions upon the Lower Indus. We must bring affairs into such a state as may admit of our having little more than the intended peace garrisons in that quarter.

The sooner you make public the intended re-annexation of Subzulkote and the district of Bhoong Bhara, to the State of Bhawulpore, the more cordially will you be aided by the people of that State, and the more easy will, I apprehend, be your negotiations with the Ameers. The impression that we grasp at everything for ourselves, will be removed; the feeling that it is an advantage to be our faithful ally, will be established; it will be impossible to create against us any religious excitement, when we generously bestow a valuable territory upon a Mahomedan chief; and, above all, the Ameers and their subjects, will be convinced that we are in earnest, and that we have determined to effect what we demand.

If the Ameers should extort the payment of revenue not yet due, from the inhabitants of districts of which we demand the cession, you will inform them, that a fine will be imposed upon them beyond the value of whatever they may have so obtained.

I have, &c.,

ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 431.

Intelligence from Sinde, 7th to 13th December, 1842.

LIEUTENANT STANLEY, officiating Aide-de-camp, reached Hyderabad on the evening of the 5th instant, and on the following day proceeded to the Durbar of Meers Nusseer Khan, Meer Mahomed, and Shadad Khan, and delivered letters from Major-General Sir C. Napier, transmitting for the acceptance and guidance of their Highnesses, translations of the notes and draft of the Treaty ordered by the Governor-General. Lieutenant Stanley then proceeded to the separate Durbar of Meers Sobdar Khan and Hoossein Ali, when the former expressed great pleasure at his friendship for the British Government having been remarked. It is the intention of their Highnesses to depute vakeels to wait upon the Major-General. In the mean time Meers Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Khan are collecting troops, and have written to the Meerpore Ameer to do the same.

In Upper Sinde Meer Ali Moorad Khan remains steadily aloof from the Khyrpore faction, whose future actions are likely to be guided by the advice and aid they may receive from Lower Sinde.

C. NAPIER.

Major Clibborn states:—

December 7, 1842. The three vakeels (Goolam Shah Syud has since been associated with the two previous ones) sent into Sukkur to remonstrate against the provisions of the new Treaty have been instructed to acknowledge "that the Ameers are tributaries to the British Government; that whatever it directs must be their choice;" but perwannas have been sent in all directions, and the chiefs of the Shahdadpore Beloochees present in Khyrpore, have been directed to collect their individual quotas with dispatch from Nowshara and Kookarah. Yesterday, Meer Goolam Hyder, son of Meer Mahomed Khan, arrived in Khyrpore with fifty horse from the fort of Ooboora. Gowar Khan, Boodah Khan, Jukranee Beloochees, arrived with sixty horsemen. The force in the vicinity of Khyrpore daily increases; the Ameers among themselves express their willingness to make any sacrifice by the payment of treasure, but maintain their intention of resisting the relinquishment of any territory; if these concessions are not accepted, they state that nothing is left for them but to fight. They have sent off expresses to the Ameers of Hyderabad for their advice and assistance, and await with impatience an answer; if it should be for war they express their intention of acting accordingly. Meer Mahomed Khan having received permission to go to Ahmed Khan, his younger brother, at Trimdo, for the purpose of hunting, has suddenly left for his fort of Emaum Ghur in the Ragistan Desert. It would appear that Meer Ali Moorad of Dejee has sent parties under Hyut Khan Patan and Jumaul Khan, to seize grain, &c., in Meer Mahomed Khan's villages, stating that as the latter had accumulated great riches and has not any considerable body of men to protect them, he (Ali Moorad) will relieve him of them unless he pays him down a large portion, or in the event of his objecting to this request, he will occupy his lands. Meer Mahomed Khan is said to have from twenty to thirty-six lacs of rupees in his fort of Emaum Ghur, in the Ragistan Desert.

December 7. My Belooch horseman has this day arrived from Khyrpore; he states that much excitement prevails among the Ameers, and that any men offering to take service are readily entertained; that it was generally understood that the Ameers were allowed eight days to give their final answer to the General; that in the mean time an answer to their communication with the Hyderabad Ameers was eagerly expected, and that, should their advice be for war, the Khyrpore Ameers would have recourse to arms before they relinquished any territory. He further states,

"Yesterday, about 4 P.M., I was returning from the city on foot to the village where I had put up my mare, about half a coss off. On the way out I met Moradut Khan, Rind Belooch, who is in the household of Suleiman Khidmutgar, and confidential servant of Meer Roostum; he was mounted on a splendid piebald mare; I was not acquainted with him before, though I knew who he was. He pulled up his mare and said, 'Salaam Ali Koom,' to which I replied; he put various questions to me and tried to persuade me to enter the Ameers' service, particularly as the English force was now threatening them. I replied, 'I know very well what the Ameers' service is, one day we are paid and the next day discharged; but if the Ameers have really an intention of fighting I will join with twenty horsemen. I hear that the Ameers are entertaining fighting men daily; if they have no real intention, you, of course, as being near their persons must be aware of it.' Moradut Khan replied that he was now on his way back from Roree, where he had been sent by Meer Roostum and Meer Mahomed Hoossein, in concert with his master Suleiman, to take an inspection of the English camp at Roree. He said he had ridden all round it and through it, had looked into the tents at noon, and found them empty, and the soldiers dispersed in all directions cooking; that at that hour the camp was evidently negligent. He had consulted with a friend who was in employ in the camp, and he told him, that for Beloochees the night would be the time for an attack, as then, with the exception of a few sentries, all were asleep. I again repeated that, if the Ameers were decided on hostilities, I would be present. He left for Khyrpore, and this morning I went into the city and called on him at Suleiman's; he said he had reported everything to the Ameers, and their present intention was not to commit any overt act until they were assured of the game to be adopted by the Hyderabad Ameers. He asserted that Meer Ali Moorad had certainly allied himself with the English, that as soon as the resolution of the Hyderabad Ameers reached Khyrpore, all the Beloochees would be made acquainted with it, and in the meantime to remain quiet."

December 8. The vakeels, Durya Khan, Lalla Wishundass, and Goolam Shah Syud, returned yesterday evening to Khyrpore, and went and made their salaam to the Ameers and gave such a favourable report of their reception by the General, adding also that he had no intention of advancing on Khyrpore, and that the Bengal force was to depart shortly for Ferozepore; that the Ameers were greatly pleased and immediately repaired to Shah Morad Mohurro, outside of Khyrpore, where they hunted for an hour or two and returned to Khyrpore. Kazee Mahomed Shakur was dispatched on the (6th) day before yesterday to Hyderabad with a report of occurrences. Gool Hoossein, a Cutwooree Belooch Chief, lately in the pay of Meer Sobdar of Hyderabad, arrived yesterday with twelve horsemen, and was engaged by Meer Mahomed Hoossein; the rest of his horsemen are on the road from Hyderabad. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan, brother of Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, is stationed in the fort of Mungnee with about 1000 men to keep a vigilant look out towards the Roree direction; 4,000 men are kept in Khyrpore, and men are arriving daily. The heads of tribes and parties (Sirkundees) yesterday evening made a petition to Meer Roostum and the other assembled Ameers, to be allowed to make a night attack on the English camp at Roree. Meer Roostum, being pleased with the reports of the vakeels, deprecated the idea, and directed that no further mention of the subject should be made. Shah Newaz Khan left Shikarpore suddenly on the 5th instant for Larkhana, and has proceeded thence with 800 or 900 men towards Cutchee.

December 10. The information of yesterday was in a great degree connected with the subject of a private note to Captain Brown, Aide-de-camp, which, for certain reasons therein mentioned, I considered it safer to omit inserting in these reports. The subject, however, is so interwoven with other intelligence from the same quarter that I am obliged to have recourse to the old channel of communication. The vakeels, I before informed you, returned to Khyrpore and gave such a favourable report of the General's intentions, that they gave them the remainder of the 10,000

rupees alluded to in that private note, to smooth the pending negotiations. The vakeels returned to Roree the evening before last; on their arrival they learned that the General's proclamation respecting the transfer of the country from Subzulkote to Roree had been made public that evening, and of course they retained the money they had brought for other purposes. The letters of this day from Khyrpore state as follows:—Meer Mahomed Hoossein made a petition to Meer Roostum to the effect that he had for four months past been paying a considerable body of armed men, and had been at a daily expense of 2,000 rupees. "All I possessed," he says, "has been swallowed in these disbursements, with the exception of a gold bedstead and a gold covered dish. Now that the English are so well disposed towards us (as reported by the vakeels), would it not be as well to discharge the Lushkur?" On this Meer Roostum, who still appears to be considered the head authority, ordered that half the followers should be paid up and discharged, but the heads of all tribes and parties retained; this was about 4 P.M. on the 8th instant, the day of the proclamation. Accordingly, half the retainers were discharged, and in consequence of the great expense, the Ameers resolved to be very economical for the future. No intelligence as yet from the Ameers of Hyderabad. Of the 2,000 rupees sent into Roree with Durya Khan Jellabanee and Lalla Wishundass, 1,500 were paid to the Moonshee Moideen; and it appears that Meer Mahomed Hoossein gave 3,000 rupees to be distributed among the English force now in the vicinity of Roree. Yesterday the 9th, about noon, Moollah Mahomed Toonea arrived from Roree and had an audience of the Ameers, when he informed them of the proclamation respecting the transfer of territory to Bhawul Khan, and that it had been made public by beat of tom tom. On this announcement the Ameers and all present were astonished, and exclaimed, "How are the Ameers to exist!" and immedietely messengers and horsemen were dispatched in all directions to reengage the discharged fighting men, and to call up all the detachments and Beloochees from the distant towns and villages to Khyrpore, and many are expected to reach Khyrpore this day. This day the Ameers were entirely engrossed in arrangements for assembling every party of armed men that they can engage in the neighbourhood of Khyrpore. Meer Roostum on the above intelligence immediately directed one lac of rupees to be paid to Mahomed Hoossein, who is authorized to exercise the powers of commander-in-chief, and he proclaims his intention to smite, and die in the cause; all armed men of Meer Nusseer Khan's arriving in Khyrpore are immediately sent to the fort of Mungnee. To-day it is reported that Meer Ali Murdan Khan and Mahabut Khan Murree, with 2,000 men, have marched from Bhootee for Khyrpore; I cannot say whether this report is true or false, if true to-morrow or the day after will show, and I will write. Tell the Sahib to be watchful, for these Beloochees are treacherous and wily. Moonshee Jokee Ram, who was formerly in the service of Lieutenant Postans, and is still in the service of the English Sircar, has come here to pick up information; he has been here some three days. Yesterday, the 9th, he went to make his salaam to Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, with whom he afterwards went to call on Meer Roostum and Meer Mahomed Hoossein, to whom he imparted every thing relating to the English force. Afterwards he represented that if they only shewed themselves stout of heart and valiant Beloochees, what chance could the English force have in collision with theirs; adding, "do not succumb in any way." The Ameers gave Jokee Ram presents to the value of 100 rupees; two thans, Goolbadun, two thans, Gurbee, two thans, Dodammee; two loonghees, one with gold border, one silk. As soon as any intelligence reaches from Hyderabrad you shall be made acquainted with it.

December 11. Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed Hoossein yesterday sent Nubbee Buksh, son of Suleiman, Khidmutgar, to Meer Ali Moorad Khan at Dejee, to desire his attendance at Khyrpore, saying, "We are well aware that the General has promised you, on Meer Roostum's death, the Puggree. After our death for you to assume the chief authority, will not have a very respectable appearance,

seeing that you have kept aloof in the day of trouble, when our lands are being wrested from us." Meer Ali Moorad has returned an answer, promising to be in Khyrpore to-day, and in the meantime has summoned Sheik Ali Hussein to advise with him in Dejee-ka-kote. A messenger has been sent to desire Meer Ali Akbar to repair from Imaumwah to Khyrpore, and to bring every man he can from Oobawarrap; a messenger has also been sent to Mahabut Khan Murree from Meer Roostum, saying, "You have eat my salt for many a long day, now I require that you hurry with Meer Ali Murdan and his force to Khyrpore." Informant says that no doubt exists that the present intention of the Ameers is to resist; and that they are assembling whatever force they can, and say that no other choice is now left them but to die with swords in their hands.

December 12. Inayut Ali Khan and Lalla Sookundass have been sent to Mittannee by Meer Roostum, under the supposition that Major Outram is coming up in the next steamer, and for the purpose of being attendant on him after entering the Khyrpore territory. Ahmed Khan Lugharee has been dispatched from Hyderabad to assemble 10,000 men from the districts round Larkhana. Meer Shere Mahomed has been written to at Meerpore, stating that the English contemplate the seizure of Tatta and Kurachee; he is therefore solicited to take up a position between Tatta and Kurachee, with 10,000 or 15,000 men, and prevent any advance of troops from Kurachee and Bombay. In the meantime the Hyderabad Ameers will assemble their troops from all quarters. Akhoond Buchal is expected in Khyrpore to-day. Meer Nusseer Khan has sent a messenger from Khyrpore to Tittoo Khan Chandia, requiring his presence in Khyrpore, with as many fighting men as he can bring with him (about 400). Meer Ali Moorad is anxiously expected at Khyrpore, but he manages, by one excuse or other, to evade the interview.

December 13. Inayut Ali Khan and Lalla Sookundass who had been sent to attend upon Major Outram on his expected arrival at Mittanee, have been recalled by Meer Mahomed Hoossein, as they say any attention of the kind is now unnecessary. The Ameers of Khyrpore have sent off messengers to Hyderabad stating, that it had been proclaimed by beat of tom tom, that the territory north of Roree would be handed over to Bhawul Khan, and add, "When we gave over the fort of Bukkur to the English, you were greatly displeased, and up to this period you have not forgotten it. At this present time the English are in considerable force in Roree, for the purpose of seizing the country. Whatever your intentions are in Hyderabad, lose no time in making us acquainted with them, and we will act in unison." Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore has written to all the Kardars to collect, either lawfully or by violence, every rupee. He has also directed that, when the English shall advance into the Gotkee, Meerpore, Mutata and Mahree pergunnas, all Beloochees shall retire with their families to the fort of Lootiarah in the Ragistan, and when they receive further orders, they are to act upon them. The brother of Secunder Khan Patan, with 300 horsemen, having been paid all arrears of pay due to him by Meer Ali Moorad Khan, has received his discharge, and yesterday reached Khyrpore with all the families, and was immediately entertained by Meer Mahomed Hoossein. Yesterday large bodies of Beloochees from Mussowah and the vicinity, all in the pay of Meer Nusseer Khan, reached Khyrpore, and there is now no question of a very great increase of the force at Khyrpore daily.

Meer Ali Moorad has not visited Khyrpore, but gone to Bhoottee to Shikar Khyre Khan Boordee. A man of note crossed the river yesterday, at the Syudabad ferry, *en route* for Khyrpore; and Shere Mahomed Juttooree will cross to-morrow to receive the Ameers' orders.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 432.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 14, 1842.

THE Ameers have written the inclosed letters of submission and remonstrance, but my information is, that they continue to collect troops. I have, therefore, told the Ameers, that I shall occupy their territory in obedience to my orders, but that I will forward their letters to you.

I accordingly am crossing as fast as I can, but we have very few boats, and, the river being very low, the operation is somewhat difficult. The inclosed little sketch will explain my movement to your Lordship. By it you will see that I shall occupy the ceded territory with the Bengal column, while those of Bombay cover the movement, and bar the road by which the Ameers must march to prevent the operation. If they attempt to turn my left, a short movement to that flank again bars their progress. My reasons for taking up this position, are, 1st, I execute your Lordship's orders to occupy the left bank of the Indus from Roree to Subzulkote. 2nd, I do so by troops, which in any case must take that route, and therefore if the submissive tone of the Ameers induce your Lordship to pardon them, the Bengal troops continue their march, so no extra expense will be incurred by your Lordship's lenity. 3rdly, if the Ameers mean to fight, they will do so when they see my force weakened, and their lands seized. But my movement would not be a false one, for they could not interpose any force between Colonel Wallace's column and mine. I could rejoin him when I pleased if I felt I required his help. But of this there is no fear. I have force enough to put them all into the Indus.

In this position I shall await your Lordship's further instructions (at the same time preparing ground for Major Outram's arrival): should you feel disposed to treat the Ameers with leniency as to Subzulkote, the Bengal troops can continue their march; should your Lordship decide upon giving the new territory to the Nawab, Wallace will be prepared to do so. In the first instance I shall occupy it in the name of the British Government. The Ameers say I have proclaimed the occupation in "the name of the Nawab." This is not true. I understand that your Lordship's intentions in that respect have been published at Lahore, and that they take it from that quarter.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

P.S.—I do not mean to wait for Major Outram's arrival.

No. 433.

Meer Roostum Khan to Sir C. Napier.

I HAVE had the pleasure of receiving your letter through Mr. Brown. You state that several people, agents of mine, have gone towards Loharee to seduce your troops, and that those agents deceive me, if they flatter me with prospects of succeeding in that sort of way. Further, you say that you have received your orders, which you intend to execute; that hostile preparations appear to be going on here, and that you fear that there will be bloodshed! you then recommend me to consult my brother Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and you conclude by mentioning that you have not yet appointed agents to see the provisions of the Treaty carried out, because you first expect a plain "yes or no" from me. My friend, in answer to all this, I can only declare that we have never given money to any one for the purpose of corrupting your troops, and we challenge you to prove the charge. God knows we have no intention of opposing the British, nor a thought of war or fighting. We have not the power. Ali Moorad Khan is indeed a brother, and, as such, we shall of course consult him. A messenger has been sent off to him, and I expect him here in a day or

two, and then I shall have the honor of reporting to you the result of our conference. Mr. Brown has left without waiting for this event.

Ever since my possessions were guaranteed to me and my posterity, by the British Government, under a formal Treaty, I have considered myself a dependent of theirs, and have thought myself secure. I have always attended to the least wish of the British officers; and, now, that my territory is being taken from me, I am at a loss to find out the reason of so harsh a measure. I have committed no fault; if any is alleged against me, let me hear what it is, and I shall be prepared with an answer. I feel strong in the possession of that Treaty, and I trust to the consideration of the British; still if, without any fault on my part, you choose to seize my territory by force, I shall not oppose you, but I shall consent to and observe the provisions of the new Treaty. However, I am now, and shall continue to be, a suitor for justice and kindly consideration at your hands.

No. 434.

Meer Nusseer Khan to Sir C. Napier.

I HAVE had the pleasure of receiving your letter from the hands of Captain Stanley. You state that I have sent seditious letters to a certain tribe of the Boogties, as well as to Dewan Sawun Mull; and you then proceed to explain the orders of the Governor-General concerning me. The British Government is aware that we were once the independent Sovereigns of this country, and were on a footing of friendship with the English. When Sir A. Burnes requested permission to travel through our dominions, the late Meer Moorad Ali Khan refused his consent, but the indulgence was at length granted at my intercession, as I hoped to obtain a return for the favour some day or other. Subsequently, I and Meer Noor Mahomed Khan saw the advantage of seeking the protection of the wisest and most powerful nation on the earth, and, therefore, urged Sir Henry Pottinger, during two whole years, to come into the country, after which we finally succeeded in introducing a British force. Our sole object in all this was to secure to ourselves peace and quiet, and in furtherance of it, we cheerfully gave up money for the construction of cantonments, and even consented to the payment of a tribute. We were then perfectly happy and contented, but now the arrival of your letter has caused us some surprise. I beg you to recollect that every one in this world has his enemy: and it is very possible that some designing person has forged these letters to the Boogties and others. It is quite impossible that I should have ever been guilty of a thing of this sort. Pray who are these individuals, that I should take the trouble of writing to them? God is my witness that, up to this moment, I know not whether the name you mention as belonging to the Boogties, is that of a man or of a whole tribe. I know them not. As to Sawun Mull, it is true that, in accordance with Article VIII of the new Treaty, I have occasionally corresponded in a friendly way with that person, but always, I would observe, with the knowledge of the Political Agents of the British Government. This correspondence has never related to other than trifling matters, and I court investigation into the charges preferred against me. It is impossible that you can have made these allegations so seriously affecting me, without some kind of apparently strong evidence; and I trust that the matter may be sifted, and the author of the falsehood brought to punishment. I know that the Kings of England never sanction injustice; still, if you think proper to deal harshly with me, I shall submit and be silent. Even now, I am setting out to pay my respects to you in person.

No. 435.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Camp, Ferozepore, December* 15, 1842.

I RECEIVED this morning your letters of the 9th instant.

Your letter to the Ameers of Khyrpore will, I hope, deter them from any aggression; but I confess I have the apprehension that, until they have actually experienced the superior strength of your arms, they will never abandon the thought of hostility.

A very small force will, I conclude, be sufficient to effect the transfer of Subzulkote from the Ameers to our ally the Khan of Bhawulpore. The possession of that district, without interruption from the Ameers or their adherents, will, probably, be as well effected by a considerable garrison at Roree, as by a strong brigade between Roree and Khyrpore, or by the location of any regiment in Subzulkote itself.

I have no occasion for the Bengal troops here, and you may detain them as long as you consider their presence desirable for the purpose of effecting the peaceful settlement of our affairs upon the Indus. I am rather apprehensive that, if they were sent to Subzulkote, it might be deemed a movement on the way to Ferozepore, and so weaken your influence over the Ameers.

That whenever you may meet the forces of the Ameers in the field you will defeat them, I cannot doubt; but I should be unwilling to see such a diminution of your army as might invite an attack, which would not otherwise be made, and render the defeat of the Ameers less decisive and impressive than it ought to be, in order to insure future tranquillity upon the Indus.

If you should be of opinion that it would be better to withdraw your troops altogether from Sukkur, and to occupy only Roree and Bukkur, it is of course open to you to do so, or to occupy Sukkur lightly, keeping your force concentrated at Roree. Some point opposite Bukkur, on the right bank of the Indus, it will, probably, always be desirable to hold, but how it should be held, and how much should be held, rests entirely with you.

No. 436.

Intelligence from Sinde, 14th to 19th December, 1842.

ON the 14th instant, Lieutenant Brown, extra Aide-de-camp was dispatched to Khyrpore with a letter from the Major-General to his Highness Meer Roostum Khan, calling upon him to reply to the draft of the new Treaty sent for his acceptance on the 4th instant. The Ameer, in answer, agrees to the terms of the new Treaty, but denies that he has ever acted but with the greatest friendliness towards the British Government. On the 15th, four vakeels, deputed from Hyderabad to wait upon the Major-General, reached Sukkur, and on the evening of the 16th, they had an audience; two, named Syud Abbas Ali Shah and Syud Sadig Shah, on the part of Meers Sobdar Khan and Hoossein Ali Khan, were first received, and expressed the friendliness of their masters towards the British Government, and their willingness to accept the new Treaty. The vakeel of Meer Hoossein Ali Khan alluded to the town of Tatta being the only one of note in the possession of his master, and to the inconvenience likely to arise to his ryots, from the introduction of a new coinage; but at the same time professed that his master was most anxious to be guided by the wishes of the British Government. The two vakeels, Akhoond Buchal and Syud Ali Shah, were then received, on the part of Meers Meer Khan and Nusseer Khan, but did little more than express the value their masters place on the friendship and protection of the British Government. These vakeels remain at Sukkur pending the

receipt of a petition from their masters to the address of the Governor-General.

The dawk from and to Sukkur having been stopped in the vicinity of Khyrpore, a letter was addressed on the 18th instant to Meer Roostum Khan, calling upon him to disband his armed followers; in reply, the Ameer promises to do so. The usual memorandum of intelligence is inclosed.

C. NAPIER.

Major Clibborn writes:—

December 15, 1842. An hour after the departure of Captain Brown, Aide-de-camp, and Moonshee Ali Akbar, from their interview with the Ameers of Khyrpore, Akhoond Buchal, and Tukkee Shah's son, vakeels from Hyderabad, reached Khyrpore. In consequence of his advice, the Ameers were preparing to send off their wives and children all last night, and the whole city of Khyrpore was in a commotion with camels and other animals, &c.; videttes were thrown out in the direction of Roree all night. Another messenger, Kumaul Khan Jellabanee, was sent to Meer Ali Moorad, desiring his presence.

December 16. The women and children of the Ameers, in accordance with the advice of Akhoond, have been leaving Khyrpore in kujawahs since the night of the 15th; those in the fort of Mungnee have also been sent off; they are generally bending their course for the fort of Koonheeree, in the direction of Hyderabad. It is reported that Ahmed Khan Lugharee has left Hyderabad, and that it is his intention to assemble a force at Mudderjee, twelve coss from Sukkur, on the right bank of the Indus. Meer Ali Akbar having sent off his women in the Ragistan direction, left Imaumwah yesterday for Khyrpore. Bahadoor Ali Syud, with fifty horsemen, has been stationed on the road from Khyrpore to Roree, to keep a sharp look out; and the communication by letter is for a time interrupted, and information is obliged to be sent by word of mouth.

December 17. Subsequent to the dispatch of yesterday's report, information reached me, that by the advice of Meer Roostum, the women and children of those Ameers who had left, and who had proceeded a considerable distance on the road, were recalled. Meer Roostum told Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein, that their sending the women, &c., away, was most injudicious at present; that he had had some experience in these matters; his having put his seal to the draft Treaty was a matter of no consequence; that his perwannas had been issued for the assemblage of the Belooch tribes, and that they were daily arriving; and whenever the English force was dispersed for the purpose of taking possession of the Subzulkote territory, the Beloochees would be let loose on them and their followers, to slay and destroy whenever opportunity offered; that the vakeels of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and Meer Mahomed Khan, &c., with the exception of Meer Ali Moorad, had been instructed to spread the folds of their garments before the General, in token of the Ameers' inability to cope with the English power, and acknowledging their readiness to abide by whatever the General dictated; but as soon as the English shall be weakened, and shall be impressed with the idea that they have established themselves as masters of the country, then will be the time to light the torch and consume them. The Ameers of Khyrpore are removing their valuables. The force now in Khyrpore and Mungnee is upwards of 7,000, and parties are daily arriving.

December 18. A letter arrived yesterday from Hyderabad, from Meer Nusseer Khan, saying, "Our house is divided against itself; Meer Sobdar and Meer Hoossein Ali have allied themselves with the English in the same manner that Meer Ali Moorad has done with you; but if you are agreed on this point, we shall draw our swords; all the heads of tribes

and parties of armed men are in my interests, and will abide by the orders of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad, and their desire is for hostilities. Whatever Kazee Buchall shall tell you to do, you must consider as coming from myself, as he is aware of my sentiments." The above letter was conveyed by Kazee Mahomed Shakur's people to Khyrpore. Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan burn with the desire to commence hostilities, but are restrained by Meer Roostum until a more fitting opportunity, when the force at Sukkur is somewhat more dispersed over the country, and something decisive shall be arranged by the Ameers of Hyderabad. Khyran Khan Boordee makes a petition to Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, that, with his permission, he will render the road impassable for the Bengal force, either to advance or retreat. The Boordees will not be able, he says, to meet them in the open field, but with his Boordees he can harass and plunder and destroy, in a manner to render them ineffective. Meer Ali Moorad of Dejee has discharged more bodies of Patan horse and foot, who have been instantly engaged by Meer Mahomed Hoossein. Dewanee Sing, Mootusudee of Nusseer Khan (Khyrpore), addressed his master, saying, "The English have seized all your possessions, why then are you sitting quietly paying a lushkur, which is draining your treasury? If you have any intention of fighting, you had better do so, or you will soon have nothing to exist upon." Nusseer Khan replied, "You speak without consideration; if I were to discharge the force, I should soon be made a prisoner." Videttes are thrown out along the roads leading from Khyrpore, to give instant information of any advance by the English force. Bhadoor Ali Shah is on the Bubberlow road; Patan horsemen on the Mungnee one. The Bombay dawk people were looted between Khyrpore and Roree, yesterday evening.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 437.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 18, 1842.

I LAST night received your Lordship's letter of the 13th. I had just returned from Roree. All my people will be over either to-night or early to-morrow; and Wallace marches on the morning of the 20th, and I advance on the same day towards Khyrpore.

Last night the mails were robbed near that town by Meer Roostum's people. The poor old fool is in the hands of his family. I have sent him orders to disband his troops instantly. I suspect he has no power, and I must rule his bands for him. The Beloochees are plundering all between this and Shikarpore. This intelligence reached me this morning. But these things must be expected, where such wild unmanageable tribes of robbers are collected, and form an army. I hope soon to quiet them.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

No. 438.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 20, 1842.

YOUR Lordship's letter of the 15th instant has just reached me. There is not the least chance of resistance. I do not think I can be deceived; at all events, I am perfectly prepared; and if any resistance be offered, the Ameers will pay dearly for it. I have sufficient cavalry to make the result of a fight very decisive. I have this moment received information that Meer Roostum's son and nephew have fled to the forts in the Desert; I shall now desire his Highness Meer Roostum to order them to give these forts into the hands of confidential killadars. If Meer

Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer refuse to obey the orders of their chief, I will move upon their forts with the cavalry and camel battery. This will decide everything in the North, and be in perfect concordance with the Treaty of 1839, Article V, and indeed with Article II also.

With regard to the Ameers of Hyderabad, they have agreed to everything as far as words go, but they assemble troops; so I will march in that direction, and keep your Lordship informed of what passes.

The difficulty I have had in procuring carriage has been very great; it was not till yesterday that I could have moved the Bombay troops. But I have not worried your Lordship with difficulties that were unavoidable, but not insuperable.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 439.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukkur, December* 20, 1842.

I HAD a secret message from Meer Roostum. The bearer had an open letter in the usual unmeaning style of the Durbar; but the messenger privately informed Lieutenant Brown, that Roostum could do nothing, and would escape to my camp. I did not like this, as it would have embarrassed me very much how to act; but the idea struck me at once that he might go to Ali Moorad, who might induce him (as a family arrangement) to resign the Turban to him (Ali Moorad), especially as Roostum has long been desirous of getting rid of this charge of the Talpoors. I therefore secretly wrote to Roostum and Ali Moorad, and about one o'clock this morning I had an express from Ali Moorad, to say that his brother is safe with him, and that he requested me not to move upon Khyrpore before 12 o'clock to-day, to give time for his women to get away in safety. This I promised, and the more readily, as I could not (from other circumstances) move before to-morrow.

Ali Moorad is now virtually chief; for, if Meer Roostum does not bestow the turban upon him, he will, at all events, be guided by Ali, into whose hands he has voluntarily thrown himself.

Ali Moorad was more powerful than any of the Talpoors, even when Meer Roostum's name and power were against him; now he is irresistible, and in alliance with us besides.

I shall to-morrow move forward, and disperse the bands, if this step taken by Roostum has not already done so. I will place their forts in the hands of Ali Moorad, nominally in those of Meer Roostum, and then, I think, not only will all be arranged quietly now, but placed on a firm basis for the future; for those plundering tribes that might annoy our communications hereafter without meeting us in the field, dare not do so against the will of Ali Moorad; in short, he will become our Chief of Police, while, at the same time, he will always be in our grasp himself.

These wild people would be like a "will of the wisp;" no regular troops could reach them, with any effect, though easily controlled by a native chief. The abstract of all this appears to be as follows.

1st. That Ali Moorad, the most powerful of the Talpoor family, is secured to our interest by the promise of the turban.

2nd. That the chief of the Talpoors, frightened at the violence of his family, and at our steady operations to coerce them, has thrown himself into his brother's power by my advice, otherwise I should believe some trick was intended.

3rd. That we, having complete power over the brother, have power over all without any "chief making," or any apparent interference, or any disturbance of the natural order of succession.

4th. That the result is a fair prospect of a permanent and peaceful state of affairs in Sinde, and that without the necessity of maintaining a large force.

5th. That our future line of policy is now simple, being merely to secure the ascendancy of the chief Talpoor. This cannot be too great, because he can never cope with the Company.

How far your Lordship would think it justifiable to promise that Ali Moorad's son should succeed to him I cannot say; the rightful heir at Ali Moorad's death is his nephew, the son of Meer Roostum. As I have no doubt that Ali will ask me this question, I should like to know your Lordship's decision.

I shall send this by express, for I assure your Lordship that, although I never wish to shrink from any responsibility, I do feel most anxious for your approbation, well knowing that any error committed by me exposes your Lordship to blame, and the thorough support I receive makes me deeply sensible of my responsibility, and very anxious.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

P.S.—Meer Roostum, as I before stated to your Lordship, agreed to the Draft of the Treaty. His son, Mahomed Hoossein, is our chief opponent, and was the collector of troops.

No. 440.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Ferozepore, December* 20, 1842.

I HAVE received your letter of the 14th, inclosing the letters of Meer Roostum Khan, and of Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad.

Nothing said or done by the Ameers will, in the least degree, alter my general determination, as already announced to them by you. The continued collection of troops by the Ameers is totally inconsistent with their declaration of submission; and I conclude that you will have already insisted upon the dispersion of those troops, and have enforced your requisition by a movement towards Khyrpore, should it not have been at once obeyed.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 441.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

Sirs, *Ferozepore, December* 20, (*No.* 63) 1842.

THE divisions amongst the Ameers of Sinde, both at Hyderabad and Khyrpore, will prevent any serious combination of their forces against us in the field: but forces were collected by these chiefs, before they had any intimation of an intention on the part of Government to insist upon a revision of treaties; and, although at Khyrpore they profess a readiness to acquiesce in the arrangements now proposed to them, I have no very confident expectation that there will a final and satisfactory settlement, before they have felt the weight of our arms.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH

No. 442.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, south of Roree, December* 23, 1842.

THE whole of Upper Sinde is now in the hands of Meer Ali Moorad. There are no armed bands but his, and his interest is synonymous with

our friendship. I consider, therefore, that Upper Sinde is perfectly settled.

In this conviction I have ordered the Bengal troops to march the day after to-morrow, with the exception of the 9th Light Cavalry, for cavalry is a necessary arm in these magnificent plains.

With regard to Lower Sinde, the hostile Ameers have submitted in words. I have reason to believe they still assemble troops, and it is possible that those discharged here may take service there if they mean to fight; the march of the Bengal troops will give them courage, and I have troops enough to make them repent such a step.

I have left one regiment to protect Roree, and one and a half to protect Sukkur and Bukkur; not that I have any fear of all not being quiet; but it is as well to be on one's guard till new arrangements have time to settle.

As far as I am at present able to judge, Lower Sinde will always be troublesome, unless the Ameers of Hyderabad, like those of Khyrpore, have a chief. Their system leaves no one responsible, and their possessions are so mixed, that if I were to throw a shell into Hyderabad, it would be as likely to fall on the head of a friend as that of an enemy. Perhaps your Lordship will favour me with your commands on this subject, and whether you would authorize me to insist upon their choosing a chief, or else separating, so that each may hold, and be responsible for his own possessions, and for his own conduct.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 443.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Ferozepore, December* 25, 1842.

YOUR two letters of the 20th reached me very early this morning, and have given me great satisfaction.

I entirely approve of all you have done and express your intention of doing.

I entertain now sanguine hopes of a pacific and permanent settlement of the affairs of the Lower Indus.

I can have no doubt that the establishment of hereditary succession, in the direct male line, to the Turban, would materially conduce to the domestic peace of the Ameers, and to the better government of their territories.

You will see by the letter of Mr. Maddock to Major Outram, dated the 10th May, that while I was willing, in compliance with the prevailing custom in the Khyrpore family, to recognize the succession of Ali Moorad to Meer Roostum, yet "I could not but regret the existence in that State of a course of descent so unreasonable, and calculated to produce much of conflict in the Khyrpore family."

I shall, therefore, gladly see established the right of primogeniture in the direct line, and this you may, if you should deem it advisable, communicate to Meer Ali Moorad; and I have little doubt, that once established in the possession of the Turban, with our support, he will be able, with the concurrence of a majority of the family, to establish the more natural and reasonable line of succession to the Turban, and clothe the measure with the forms of legality; but recognizing, as I do, Meer Ali Moorad as the successor to Meer Roostum, according to the present custom, whereby the eldest son of Meer Roostum is superseded, I could not at once recognize the eldest son of Meer Ali Moorad as his successor, in contravention of the very principle upon which his father's rights are founded.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 444.

Intelligence from Sinde, 21st to 27th December, 1842.

ON the 21st instant, Major-General Sir C. Napier left Sukkur and joined the camp on the Roree side of the river; on the 22nd, he proceeded to Khyrpore, and met Meer Shah Newaz Khan, eldest son of Meer Ali Moorad, who had been left in charge of that town, and returned to Roree the same evening. On the 23rd instant, Kazee Abdool Kuree and Moonshee Mootram waited upon the General as vakeels on the part of Meer Shadad Khan of Hyderabad, and expressed the willingness of their master to agree to the terms of the proposed new Treaty. Thus all the Ameers of both Upper and Lower Sinde have agreed to the same. On the 25th instant, the late Shah's regiments and 19th Bengal Native Infantry, under the command of Brigadier Wallace, left Roree *en route* to Ferozepore, the Brigadier having received instructions to take possession of, and hand over to such officers as may be deputed by the Nawab of Bhawulpore, the provinces of Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara. Proclamations to the above effect have been published.

On the 26th instant, the Bombay force, four battalions of infantry, two companies of artillery, and the 9th Bengal cavalry, and Sinde horse, under the command of Sir C. Napier, quitted Roree and marched to Mungnee, a fort belonging to Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, but now in the possession of Meer Ali Moorad Khan. In the afternoon, the General rode over to Khyrpore, and visited the latter Ameer; the force is detained, and will be so for many days at Mungnee, by heavy rain. Intelligence has been received on the evening of the 27th instant of the departure from Dejee-ka-kote of Meer Roostum Khan. He is said to be halting at Chundha, twelve coss in advance of Dejee towards the Desert.

The usual memorandum of intelligence is inclosed.

C. J. NAPIER.

Major Clibborn writes:—

December 19. 1842.—Meer Roostum Khan sent a Dustkhut the day before yesterday to Meer Ali Moorad at Dejee-ka-kote, saying, "You have not acted well in separating yourself from us; the kaffirs are taking our country from us, and it would be better if you took the Puggree at once, and keep the territory in your own possession; we will make it over to you." Meer Ali Moorad sent an answer, requiring Futteh Mahomed Ghoree to be sent to him. Futteh Mahomed went early yesterday to Dejee. At noon, yesterday, Meer Roostum sent his wife (mother of Meer Mahomed Hoossein) and three daughters, with Korans, to Meer Ali Moorad, desiring hospitality for the ladies and children of the Ameers in the fort of Dejee, and imploring him to join them. The kujawahs, with the 100 men of Meer Nusseer Khan, left the fort of Mungnee yesterday for Khyrpore. There is a report that the kujawahs have left Khyrpore for Dejee. My Belooch horseman has just returned (2 P.M.) from Khyrpore, and reports as follows:—Yesterday a letter reached Khyrpore from Akhoond Buchal, one of the Hyderabad vakeels, now in Sukkur, stating that he had had an interview with the General, and that, if they had any intention of sending off their women and fighting, now was the time, as the English had no idea of relaxing in their demands. The ladies and children of the Ameers were sent off in kujawahs in the direction of Dejee; but, by the persuasion of the Peer Ali Gohur, some parties returned. Peer Ali Gohur recommended that Meer Nusseer Khan and Mahomed Hoossein should immediately be sent to make their submission to Meer Ali Moorad, in their own and Meer Roostum's name, and to declare their intention of abiding entirely by his (Ali Moorad's) decision in extremity. The above Ameers have, in company with Peer Ali Gohur, proceeded to lay the Puggree before Meer Ali Moorad at Dejee. They mounted their horses for this purpose yesterday at 2 P.M. Futteh

Mahomed Ghoree was still in Dejee. The general feeling was, in Khyrpore, that Meer Ali Moorad would join the Ameers, if he was proclaimed their head, and that he would manage to withdraw himself from any closer alliance with the English. Peer Ali Gohur was hourly expected in Khyrpore from Dejee, when informant left, at about 9 A.M.; and Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein were still in Dejee at the time informant left. Several days back Meer Ali discharged some 300 Patans who were entertained by Meer Mahomed Hoossein. The greatest excitement prevails in Khyrpore: at one hour all are making ready to fly, at the next they are told by tomtom, that the Ameers have arranged with the English, and threatened with punishment if any one dares to leave the city. The Beloochees assembled in Khyrpore are more anxious for the plundering to commence than anything else. There will be no opposition to the English force.

December 20.—Yesterday, in consequence of Meer Ali Moorad having told Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein, that he would consult with Meer Roostum in Khanpore, half way from Dejee to Khyrpore, they returned to Khyrpore, having been assured of an asylum for their ladies and children in Dejee-ka-kote. On their arrival in Khyrpore, Meer Roostum instantly entered his maffah or palanquin, and with his confidential servant Ramzan, went to Khanpore, where he was met by Meer Ali Moorad, who told him that he would not waste his time by saying more to him then, than to beg he would come on with him to Dejee-ka-kote; Khyrpore was no place for him now; that he would send his son Meer Newaz round to Khyrpore to bring away Meer Roostum's wives and children, which was done yesterday evening. Meer Mahomed Hoossein has one wife in Mungulwallee, and the rest of his family in Bhootee; he left Khyrpore last night about 10 o'clock, with his guns and about 2,000 men for Bhootee, and *en route* for Hyderabad. Meer Nusseer Khan, after consideration, decided upon retiring from Khyrpore on Hyderabad, and left Khyrpore last night about 12 o'clock; his brother Meer Mahomed having evacuated the fort of Mungnee, also accompanied him; some 500 or 600 horse went with the kujawahs. The Beloochees assembled in Khyrpore took their leave, and began to disperse to their homes. The town of Khyrpore is abandoned, and very considerable property and valuables of the Ameers are at the mercy of the Beloochees, and liable to be plundered unless some of the English troops are sent as a safe-guard. The greatest consternation prevails, and the merchants and shopkeepers are more in alarm of the ragamuffins about them proceeding to plunder, than anything else.

December 22. After the flight of the Ameers from Khyrpore, Sheik Ali Hoossein, by order of Meer Ali Moorad, took charge of the city. The families of Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein have been sent to the former's fort, Ali Ghur, in the Ragistan, ten coss from Gotarra. The Ameers have, with the exception of Meer Roostum, bent their steps towards Hyderabad.

December 20. Informant states that he has heard from persons on whose word reliance can be placed, that Meer Zungee Khan has contrived to bring all the Ameers of Hyderabad to agree together, among whom are Meer Sobdar and Meer Hoossein Ali, who have all sworn on the Koran that they will not make any more concessions to the English. They have taken it into their heads that the General is moving towards Hyderabad, and that nothing will satisfy him except the possession of the fort and guns there.

Wuddunk Ali Murdan has been presented with the fourth share of the Larkhana pergunna, by the general consent of the Hyderabad Ameers. 1,000 khurwars of wheat, ten swords mounted in gold and twenty swords in silver have been given to him, on condition of his furnishing 15,000 men when called on to do so by them.

December 27. The Belooch horseman sent by me, has just returned from Peer Ali Gohur's village, six coss the other side of Khyrpore. He states that both Meer Hoossein Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein are

at Dingee, a fort six coss from Abad, and thirty-three coss from Khyrpore, where they are said to be collecting a considerable body of men from every side; the horseman says that they may have about 4,000 men now, though a much larger number is mentioned. Jallee, the nephew of Wallee Mahomed Chandia, a chief of some distinction among the Beloochees, has joined them, and a large number of Beloochees from Chandia were expected to join at Dingee. The Ameers declare their intention of opposing Meer Ali Moorad's sway in every possible way, and their determination, in case they cannot prevail against him, to destroy the country and plunder the villages. They express their intention to try their arms against the British force first; in the meantime they are expecting daily reinforcements from Chandia; and the chief of the Abras, Ali Murdan, residing at Turraee, eleven coss west of Sukkur, whose territory extends to Larkhana, has been solicited to join the faction. If he should join it, Ali Murdan could take 5,000 men with him; but informant says that there is no doubt the Chandia Beloochees are united with the Ameers at Dingee.

The horseman says that Meer Ali Akbar, son of Meer Roostum, has thrown himself into Shahghur with a considerable body of men, and has been joined by Meer Mahomed Ali, Meer Nusseer Khan's brother; their intention is to collect a body of men, and then enter the cultivated country with hostile designs.

The horseman says if the General will detach four of the Kaheyrie horsemen with him, he will go into the Ameers' camp at Dingee, and bring certain intelligence of their intentions. T. CLIBBORN.

No. 445.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Fort Mungaree, December* 27, 1842.

I YESTERDAY marched from Roree. The Bengal column marched the day before. I have been obliged to halt one day here. The camels are chiefly the exhausted animals remaining after the Affghan campaign, and are so feeble that it is hard to make any progress. The food here is abundant, and I am told that a day's good feeding will make a great difference; I do not understand these animals myself as yet, but the baggage of an Indian army is an awful affair! However, I will not plague your Lordship with our difficulties. I have discovered long ago that the Ameers put implicit faith in their deserts, and feel confident that we can not there reach them; that, therefore, when negotiations, and delays, and lying, and intrigues of all kinds fail, they can at last declare their full obedience, their innocence and their humility, and retire beyond our reach to their deserts; and from thence launch their wild bands against us so as to cut off all communication, and render Sinde more hot than nature has already done.

This conviction opened upon me a system, which appears the only one to follow,—making the chief powerful, and holding him under the power of the Government. This made me venture to promise Ali Moorad your Lordship's support in having the Turban, which your Lordship has approved of. The next step was to secure him the exercise of its power now, even during his brother's life. This I was so fortunate to succeed in, by persuading Meer Roostum to place himself in Ali Moorad's hands. This burst upon his family and followers like a bombshell. They and their troops fled, and, as far as I am able to discover, all in a southerly direction, but into the desert, and chiefly to the fortress of Emaum (or Emaun) Ghur, about a hundred miles in the desert, which they reckon impregnable.

So circumstanced, and after all the consideration I could give the subject, and after drawing all I could from Ali Moorad, whom I saw last night at Khyrpore, I made up my mind that, although war has not been declared, (nor is it necessary to declare it,) I would at once march upon Emaum Ghur, and prove to the whole Talpoor family, of both Khyrpore

and Hyderabad, that neither their deserts, nor their negotiations, can protect them from the British troops: while they imagine they can fly with security to their deserts, they will never be quiet. I told Ali Moorad I would place his killadar in Emaum Ghur; that your Lordship was determined to support the family chief, as bound to do by treaty; that those people who fled with armed men to Emaum Ghur, and refused to obey their chief, Meer Roostum, were in fact rebels, and I was resolved to follow them. His reply was, that he would take Emaum Ghur himself. I directly answered him, that I knew he could so, and his readiness to save my troops the trouble was praiseworthy, and I was much obliged to him; however, I was determined to show the Ameers of Hyderabad that their deserts were of no avail; that I both could and would follow them everywhere, whether into the deserts of Sinde or the mountains of Beloochistan; that following his relations to Emaum was, perhaps, the most difficult of any operations of the kind, and therefore would have the most effect. I answered thus, my Lord, because I thought it was not amiss to lift up the curtain, and let my friend Ali Moorad look into futurity; as it is well for him also to feel that he is wholly dependent on our power, that everything he can honestly wish for is his, as our faithful ally, but that, should he be a traitor, he has no refuge. He is vigorous-minded, ambitious, and, I suspect, a cunning man, but apparently generous and bold; in short, as good as barbarians can be, and better than most. Sheik Ali Nusseer, his Minister, is very clever. He has lived in Bengal; knows our power; has, I believe, convinced his master that it is not to be resisted. Besides, he sees that, while he keeps his master good friends with us, his own fortune must thrive. He is, therefore, our own. He has made Futteh Mahomed Ghoree a prisoner. The latter went secretly, and in disguise, among the troops of Roostum, and Ali Moorad, and won over 2,000 of them to favour the son and the nephew. Sheik (or Seik) Ali asked me what he should do with Futteh Mahomed? I answered, "Keep him prisoner for the present, but do not ill use him." I was glad this man was secured; he is a wretch, and would do a great deal to prevent the settlement of the Treaty. There is one point which I do not yet understand, some trick probably, but I cannot yet clearly see it. There is an evident objection to my seeing Meer Roostum; why, I do not know; but I told Ali Moorad, I must and will see his Highness. I shall march to-morrow to Khanpore, fourteen miles on the road to Emaum Ghur. I do not believe your Lordship will find this place marked in the map, but if you will take Walker's Map (of 1841, I think,) of the North-West Frontier, and with ninety miles in your compasses, sweep an arch, with Sukkur for a centre, and again, with Hyderabad as a centre, intersect the former arch, with 100 miles in your compasses, it will give you pretty nearly the site of Emaum Ghur. What strength it has in construction, or garrison, I cannot exactly ascertain; but it is said, that about 2,000 armed men are in and about the fort. As I shall have neither carriage nor forage, nor water, for the whole force now with me, I shall proceed as far as I can with the whole; and, when water and forage grow scarce, I mean to push on with the Sinde Horse, the camel battery, the foot artillery, under Captain Hutt, and the 22nd Queen's. To supply this detachment I will apply my whole carriage. I am perfectly aware of the danger of entering a desert, but it always arises more from neglect of proper precaution than from any other cause, and I do not feel the least nervous at making the attempt. The man whom I sent to gain information goes with me to show me water, and knows that I will punish him if he betrays me. I have warned him not to say he knows, if he does not; and he shall get no drink but what he brings me to.

As it is not possible to conceal my march, I shall send the Ameers in Emaum word that I am not going either to plunder or slay them, if they do not make resistance, but if they do, then they must abide the results.

No. 446.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, near Khyrpore, December* 29, 1842.

I WOULD not worry your Lordship with the host of difficulties attending my collecting carriage, which I only succeeded in doing on the 25th of the month, and marched the 26th. The exertions of the Commissariat Officer have been great and praiseworthy, but the Ameers had made their people drive the whole country, and not a camel is to be had. Our contractor for 1,000 camels has furnished 250, and forfeited 30,000 rupees. He is the most influential man in all this country, but his whole property lies in and about Shikarpore, and, though he will not say so, he dare not furnish the camels he agreed to give before he was aware of the Ameer's secret orders, or perhaps before they were issued. However, I have enough to move 3,400 men, but was caught here by the rain some hours after our reaching our ground on the 26th; from that time up to the present hour it has never ceased. It is impossible to move. I should lose half the camels. The ground is clayey, and covered with water; the camels slip and disjoint their hip-bones.

And now, my Lord, I have to tell you that Meer Roostum has decamped yesterday morning. I met Ali Moorad the night before, and desired him to say that I would pay my respects to his Highness the next day; and the next day, I heard of his flight. I can only account for this in one of two ways:—

1st. Meer Roostum, who is a timid man, and has all along fancied that I want to make him prisoner, believed that the time for this step had arrived, and that his brother and I were about to execute our conspiracy against him; or,

2nd. That Ali Moorad drove his brother to this step. Meer Roostum had resigned the Turban to his brother Ali, in the most formal manner, writing his resignation in the Koran before all the religious men collected to witness the resignation at Dejee. Ali sent the Koran to me to see it. I said that these family arrangements were their own, but that your Lordship would support the head of their family, whoever it might be, according to the spirit of the Treaty; that I personally thought it better for Roostum to keep the turban, and let Ali Moorad act for him, but that he was free to do as he pleased; it was a family arrangement, with which your Lordship would not interfere. Now it strikes me that Ali Moorad may have frightened the old man into the foolish step he has taken, on purpose to make his possession of the turban more decisive; that, to do this, he told him I intended to make him (Roostum) a prisoner; Ali pretending to be his friend, and only waiting for his opportunity to betray us. Such are my own conjectures, and also I see that they (the Ameers) all consider the Desert as a secure refuge. I had no sooner heard of the flight of Roostum, than intelligence reached me that his sons and nephews have struck up a close alliance with the Hyderabad Ameers; that Sobdar has been persuaded to join them; that their forces are assembling at Dejee in large numbers, and about 15,000 north of Larkhana, and 2,000 in the fort of Shahghur, on the road to Jessulmere. Roostum's course is not yet known, but it is supposed that he has fled to join his family at Dejee. In this state of affairs, all changed as if by magic, I shall lay before your Lordship my view of the matter, and the course I mean to pursue the moment the rain ceases.

1st. In a former letter I described the position of Emaum Ghur, but I did not send it, as before I had folded it all this news came. I therefore will now give you a sketch. By this your Lordship will see that I am threatened from four points. The impossibility of getting camels obliged me to leave three regiments and a wing, with about 100 cavalry, at Sukkur, also four field-pieces. Lieutenant-Colonel Roberts, an officer that I selected for the command, is therefore well able to hold his own against No. 2. Against No. I, the 8th Native Infantry garrison Roree;

and I have halted Lieutenant-Colonel Wallace, who is not twenty miles distant, and can (if No. 1 advances) in one march join the garrison of Roree. My rear is, therefore, perfectly safe, even should Ali Moorad be a traitor, which I have no reason to believe, but upon which I calculate nevertheless. Now for my own force. In the want of precise information, I cannot tell what the Ameers are at, but I believe they mean to fight at Dejee. I therefore have changed my intention of marching direct upon Emaum Ghur, and will march upon Lalloo, about five marches. By the time I get there my spies will have brought me intelligence of both the intentions of the Ameers, and their strength at Dejee, as well as at Emaum Ghur, and this intelligence will make me move to either flank, or direct upon Hyderabad. Lalloo is considered in the Desert, and a march upon that point will alarm them, as they expect me to move by the usual road by the river. But, if I did so, they would have free communication with the Desert, which, by marching on Lalloo, I shall intercept, and oblige No. 3 to fall back on Hyderabad, upon which I shall then march; or, if No. 3 crosses to Emaum Ghur before I reach Lalloo, I will march on that fort, and take it. I am fully aware of the danger of these marches in the Desert; but they may be done I think. Where one man goes, surely another can; and until I prove to these Ameers that they can go nowhere without my following them, they will feel their Desert to be a safe retreat, and Sinde will never be quiet. As this new aspect of affairs (confirming all your Lordship's apprehension) seems to threaten a battle, I have ordered up the 19th Bengal Regiment, and the troops of Horse Artillery, though I feel quite strong enough without them. I have to apologize for this long letter, but I am so cold, and damp, and miserable, that I can hardly bring my ideas into any shape.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 447.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Ferozepore, December* 29, 1842.

I RECEIVED this morning your letter of the 23rd.

The report you make of the settlement of Upper Sinde is most satisfactory.

I do not think we should derive much benefit from making one of the Ameers of Hyderabad nominally responsible for the others, unless he had, at the same time, practically conferred upon him the power of compelling the others to act according to his orders. I know not whom to select for this responsible authority, if we had indeed the power of conferring it.

I apprehend that to make Meer Sobdar such chief, would be, in fact, to take the rule into our own hands in a manner very offensive to the rest of the family; and, until I am more fully acquainted with the circumstances of the several members of the family, and with the condition of the country and of the people, I am disposed to go no farther than I have already done, in requiring a modification of the Treaty, and to draw what benefit I can from the divisions amongst the Ameers, instead of endeavouring to derive a new advantage from the union of authority in one hand.

I shall be happy to receive, from time to time, your views upon the subject, and to know those which may appear to be entertained by the principal persons in Lower Sinde. I should be glad to know, as soon as you can inform me, whether, after the arrival of the Bombay cavalry, you would wish to keep for a time the 9th Bengal Light Cavalry; you can do so if you wish.

I quite concur with you in thinking it necessary to be on our guard till the new arrangements may have had time to settle,

I hope the Nawab of Bhawulpore may be able to send some people

of his own into the pergunnas given over to him, and to take the management and police of them at once off your hands.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 448.

Intelligence from Sinde, 28th December. 1842, to 24th January, 1843.

BUT little change in the position of the Ameers has occurred in the above interval. On the 4th January, Sir C. Napier marched to Dejee-ka-kote, the fort of Meer Ali Moorad Khan, and the next night moved with a small force lightly equipped towards Emam Ghur, a fort distant eighty miles in the desert, belonging to Meer Mahomed Khan (but becoming the property of Ali Moorad by his election to be chief), nephew of Meer Roostum Khan. This fort had hitherto been considered by the Ameers inaccessible to our troops, and as from its position in the centre of the desert, it was looked upon as a refuge for the disaffected, it was, with the concurrence of Meer Ali Moorad Khan, who accompanied the General, destroyed by mining.

The Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde have been invited personally to attend at Khyrpore, or to send deputies fully authorized to act for them, to meet Major Outram on the 25th instant, with a view to arranging the minor details of the new Treaty. Deputies only from Meer Ali Moorad Khan of Upper Sinde, and from Meers Sobdar Khan and Hoossein Ali of Lower Sinde, have yet arrived. Meer Roostum Khan and his nephews are at Khoonera, near the boundary between Upper and Lower Sinde. The General's force is halted at Peer Aboo Bukr, ten miles south of Dejee-ka-kote, pending the assembling at Khyrpore of the parties to the new Treaty.

C. J. NAP

No. 449.

Intelligence from Sinde.

December 29, 1842. The Hyderabad Ameers have written to Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein to send their wives and families to the fort of Hadjee, in Hala range, behind Sehwan, which it is their present intention to do. They have also desired them to be of good cheer, and that money and men shall be sent to them.

The Beloochees are assembling in considerable force with the Ameers at and around Dingee. Informant says that there is a fort at Dingee which is situated in the midst of Jowarree fields and Belooch villages, but two coss from it is the Lalloo Desert, which town is eight coss from Dingee, and the town of Nowshera is equidistant. The Ameers speak of their intention to oppose the British, in case they advance beyond Khyrpore.

Meer Mahomed Khan has sent two confidential servants to compliment Meer Ali Moorad Khan, but he has no intention of appearing personally, as he has no confidence in the safety of his person, should he trust himself in Meer Ali Moorad's presence.

I have sent persons in various directions to ascertain where camels in any numbers may be grazing, but it is generally understood that most of them have been driven to the Desert by the Beloochees, with their families; and, indeed, most of the villages of the insurgent Ameers have been abandoned by all but the bunneyans and a few cultivators.

P.S.—The Ameers have carried away with them most of the camels around Khyrpore; twenty camel-loads of Meer Roostum's things were transported towards Dejee, by Doomchund Dewan, three days ago.

December 30. Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Emam Buksh, son of Meer Mahomed Hoossein, have left Dingee, to obtain adherents from the Hyderabad Ameers.

Meer Ali Akbar, Meer Roostum's son, and Meer Ali Murdan, have joined Meer Mahomed Hoossein at Dingee. Meer Ali Mahomed, brother of Meer Nusseer Khan, and lately governor of Mungnee Fort, has also joined there.

Meer Ali Moorad has seized, in Khyrpore, from Suleiman, Meer Roostum's confidential servant, 150 khurwars of jowarree and fifty khurwars of wheat; from Meer Ali Akbar's tashakhaneh, a large amount of valuable property, in guns, swords, and cloths.

Doomchund, Meer Roostum's Dewan, by permission of Meer Ali Moorad, left Khyrpore this morning with about thirty camel-loads of Meer Roostum's property. Meer Ali Moorad has also seized from Meer Mahomed Khan's fort at Ooberee, a vast quantity of all kinds of grain, several bricks of gold, of 1½ seer weight, and some silver. On the Ameers quitting Khyrpore, Meer Mahomed Khan's son left Ooberee and all the valuables it contained.

Several Patans, sent by Meer Ali Moorad to take possession of Kundiaree, twelve coss this side of Nowshera, have been killed or driven out of the pergunna.

January 1, 1843. Meer Roostum Khan is stated to have left Choondkee, and has bent his course along the bank of the Nara and the Desert, in the Hyderabad direction; and the Beloochees in the vicinity of Choonkee are making preparations for flight.

Meer Roostum has sent 40,000 rupees by Meer Ali Akbar to Meer Mahomed Hoossein, in Dingee, for the purposes of his force. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan is in Sankeeara, four coss from Choondkee, with about 1,000 men. It is stated, that the intention of the whole is to retire and concentrate with Meer Mahomed Hoossein's force in Dingee. Meer Mahomed Hoossein's force increases every day, and the intention is to oppose the British force in its advance southward. The Hyderabad Ameers are stated to be arming, and it is still asserted that Meer Sobdar has joined them.

January 2. Considerable bodies of Beloochees have been crossing the Indus, from Choondkee and Larkhana, by the Kuree Bunder ferry, for some days past, to join Meer Mahomed Hoossein, whose force has also been greatly augmented from other quarters. The Beloochee Sirdars and petty chiefs have persuaded him to allow them to plunder, and provide for themselves, instead of his being obliged to pay them a daily allowance. Meer Mahomed Hoossein has assented to the proposition, and his followers have instructions to loot the whole country, with the exception of Raneepore, Gumbut, Khorah, and Khyrpore. Meer Roostum was obliged to leave Choondkee in consequence of the scarcity of grass, two poolies, or bundles, selling for one rupee; he is going southward along the bank of the Nara, where forage can be procured, and makes daily marches, and may probably intend to join his son, Meer Mahomed Hoossein, in Dingee.

The kujawahs conveying Meer Mahomed Hoossein's mother fell, and her arm was broken near the elbow; the two female attendants in the opposite kujawahs are said to have been killed.

Meer Ali Moorad Khan sent a letter to Meer Sobdar of Hyderabad, three days ago, from Khyrpore. In the skirmish at Khundeara, Meer Ali Moorad's people had twelve men killed, and Meer Mahomed Hoossein's people had five killed; Meer Ali Moorad is said to have sent 300 Patans in that direction again.

January 3. A Patan messenger sent to Dingee has just returned, and states as follows:—Meer Nusseer, Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Ali Murdan, Meer Shere Mahomed, Mahabut Khan Murree, Dinganah Khan Murree, and many other petty Belooch chiefs, are in and around Dingee; the whole of the above went a few days ago to Nowshera, to swear on the Koran, before Peer Iwabdeenson, the Moolla, that except by the sword,

they will come to no understanding, either with Meer Ali Moorad or his allies, the English; that as soon as either advance their troops to the southward of Khyrpore, they will commence opposition. They have sent all their women, &c., to Jambysee, two coss from Khoonhera; this place is thirty coss di tant from Dingee, and is supplied with water from a large tank. Durya Khan Jellabanee has been deputed to Hyderabad by the above-named chiefs, to obtain the advice and assistance of those chiefs. The insurgent chiefs have given instructions to the Chandia Beloochees to plunder.

Informant says they have assembled some 5,000 men, and are installed in the villages around Dingee, which is eight coss from Hulleanee Beelianee; there is no scarcity of water or forage of any kind. The poorer inhabitants have been turned out of their habitations to make room for the Ameers' people. Meer Mahomed Hoossein's Moonshee told informant, that Meer Roostum's camp was at Bhang, and his intention is to join his son in Dingee.

Meer Mahomed Hoossein wrote to Meer Roostum to state, that Meer Ali Moorad having sent a body of horse to seize the grain in Khundearee, he had dispatched eighty horse to oppose him. Meer Roostum replied, that Meer Ali Moorad having already seized lacs of rupees worth of territory and property, he saw no necessity for sending out detachments to contest for a little grain; that it would be much wiser to preserve the force complete for one good fight, which should decide the dispute between them and Meer Ali Moorad and his friends.

January 4. Informant left Mungnee fort on the morning of the 31st ultimo, and went to Pharporree, seventeen and a quarter coss, thence two coss to Choondkee; found Meer Roostum had left for Chickeree, six coss distant, and three coss the other side of the Nara, and thence to Bewalkea, ten coss in the desert. Meer Roostum had sent all his women and kujawahs. Meer Roostum, Meer Mahomed Ali Khan, Ali Akbar, Goolam Mahomed, and Wullee Mahomed, are all in Chickera, where there is plenty of water. Meer Mahomed Ali Khan has two guns with him, and Meer Roostum's camp may contain 2,000 men. There is a scarcity of grass; flour, ten seers the rupee; ghee, three-quarter seers the rupee; ghoor, one and a-half seer.

Informant says that Meer Roostum has addressed himself to the Beloochees, saying; "I have brought my wives and children among you: I am in extremity; all my property, treasures, &c., have been seized by Meer Ali Moorad and his allies. I look to you to defend my family. You have eat and drunk at my expense for many a year; now it is indispensable that you should unite and smite with the sword. Meer Ali Akbar was on the point of starting for Hyderabad, when a letter was received from the Hyderabad Ameers, saying, that they had written to Meer Ali Moorad, stating their determination to join Meer Roostum, if he did not reinstate him (Meer Roostum) in all his possessions and his rightful authority.

Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein have written to Meer Roostum Khan, that "if the English retire back upon Sukkur, we will settle Meer Ali Moorad Khan, but if they pursue you into the (Thur) desert, we will join you by the Nara." Chuckeree is on the road to Shahghur. Meer Roostum has sent a reinforcement to the garrison of Shahghur, trusting it will reach before the arrival of Shadee Khan Murree, dispatched to take possession, by Meer Ali Moorad Khan. Informant's family reside at Kattra, five coss from Chuckeree, and learnt all the foregoing from the Belooch Chiefs in Chickerah.

January 4. A Hindoo sent from Nusseer Khan's fort to Lalloo and Dingee, reports as follows:—The road by Butchral Chand and Lalloo unfavourable for a large force from want of water and forage; went on to Dingee, which he left the day before yesterday (January 2). Says Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Ali Murdan, Meer Shere Mahomed, Meer Ali Buksh, and between 600 and 700 men are collected in and around that place; and their usual expression of "guggee-ke-ming,"

and their intention of resisting to the uttermost, was in every man's mouth. Tilloo Chandia Belooch was in the vicinity with a body of horse, and more were daily expected from the other side of the river; and Meer Zungee Khan had written to Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein, to be of good cheer, that he had arranged with the Hyderabad chiefs, and would join them shortly with a considerable force. When at Lalloo, informant inquired particularly about the road thence to Emaum Ghur, and all parties decided as to the distance being at least thirty coss from Lalloo, and the road almost impracticable from want of water. Informant, who furnished the route to Emaum Ghur from actual observation, and presented by me to the General, says there is no other route so feasible as that one by Choondkee Tujjeen Lukdee.

January 4, 9 P.M. Another messenger sent to watch the movements of Meer Roostum has just come in; he followed him to Chuckeree, and left it for this place about 4 P.M., the 2nd January. Says that Meer Roostum had from 1,500 to 2,000 people about him. When informant left Chuckeree, Meer Roostum, Meer Mahomed, Ali Khan, Wullee Mahomed, were immediately about to depart thence; and Dewan Jote Sing and Dewan Villat Rye told him that the intention was for the whole to concentrate with Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Hoossein in Dingee, after their women should be placed in security. They are all most inveterate against Meer Ali Moorad, and determined to resist his authority with arms in their hands. Says that a great deal of water fell at Chuckeree, and the people and cattle drank from a tank where the rain collected: but with the exception of a well, the rest will soon dry up. In Choondkee there is water, but no forage for horses.

January 5. Informant (Belooch horseman) left Dingee on the 3rd instant, accompanied by the four Khyeree horsemen, sent with him on the way to Dingee. The party passed through Kundeara, two days ago; before their arrival there were 600 horse under Jaffer Khan Chandia, 400 of which had been called into Dingee, and the reinforcements expected from Chandia under Tilloo were delayed at that time, in consequence of some disturbances among the tribes near Chandia; from Kundeara he went to Dingee. "Within two coss of Dingee we came upon detachments of Murrees, and other Beloochees, wherever there might be wells or remains of old villages. We put up our mares in a small village half a coss from Dingee, for the night; in the morning the Syud and myself walked into Dingee, which is a mere ghurree, with walls about fifteen feet high: several wells outside. Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan were there. We saw four guns; and both from actual observation, and from inquiry, we calculated that the force with these Ameers could not be more than 2,000 or 2,500 men in, and in the vicinity of, Dingee; and Meer Ali Murdan was said to have about 1,000 men under him. Among themselves much indignation was expressed against Meer Ali Moorad, and they were loud in their threats of hostility to him and his allies, the Feringees; but food was by no means plentiful; each day perhaps the force may be increased by a few; but a good chuppao, which might be made the road we returned, would disperse the whole who are encamped in tents or pals outside the ghurree. On our return, we came by Koomba-kote, eight coss from Dingee, where there are three wells, and at present plenty of water. We saw there two 'wuggr,' or flocks of camels grazing, in number about 400: thence to Ballianee, five coss, but long ones. We observed all along the road Belooch tents, and the families of those who fled with the Ameers from Khyrpore, arrested in these places from their camels having been seized by different Ameers."

January 8.—A Belooch sent on the 4th instant to Dingee, returned this evening, and reports as follows:—He had reached, eighteen coss from Dejee-ka-kote, Meer Alleya Tanda, when he heard that the Ameers had departed from Dejee; but as he had orders to go wherever the Ameers might be, he had arrived within four coss of Dingee, when he heard that the Ameers, after going a short distance in the Desert from Dingee,

had been obliged to return, as the Beloochees refused to advance any further into it, as they and their horses must starve. The Ameers Nusseer Khan and Mahomed Hoossein, however, sent four guns, some tents, &c., to a place in the Desert, called Phengnee, some fourteen coss distant. When informant reached Dingee he saw Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Ali Murdan in a tent: Mahabut Khan Murree had gone to a place some eight coss distant, for the convenience of supplies and water. Meer Emaum Buksh, son of Meer Mahomed Hoossein, was in Abad with about fifty sowars. The Ameers had two guns of Meer Ali Murdan's, and about 1,500 men in the vicinity of Dinjee; Jaffeer Khan Chandia, with fifty horsemen, was with them. The Ameers were in much distress for money, and so pressed, that Meer Nusseer Khan was obliged to sell some of his saddles and trappings, mounted in gold, at the rate of fourteen rupees the gold mohur.

It was generally understood that they had been written to by Meer Roostum, to abstain from any hostilities with the English; but when the British force moved down towards Hyderabad the whole of the Ameers were to assemble and destroy Meer Ali Moorad, against whom the bitterest feelings are excited, and chiefly from his conduct towards Meer Roostum. A cossid, with a letter from Bhadoor Buksh Koshah, accompanied informant, bearing a letter, to the effect that he was ready to join Meer Nusseer Khan with his tribe. Meer Nusseer Khan replied, that at present he was a fugitive, but that when he called upon Kadoor Buskh Koshah and his tribe, he should rely upon their being at hand; that his readiness in this instance to do good service was right and proper.

January 9.—Informant arrived in Dingee on the evening of the 7th January, and put up at the quarters of Mahomed Hoossein Murree; about 12 o'clock that night a Curharrah camel arrived, conveying a letter from Meer Roostum to Meer Mahomed Hoossein, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Ali Murdan, in which it was announced to them that the General had entered the Thur or Desert, and was in full march for Meer Mahomed Khan's fort of Emaum Ghur; that Mahomed Khan and his people had left the fort; and he desired that on receiving the letter, they would instantly fly, or the English force would be on them and make them prisoners. In accordance with Meer Roostum's letter, they mounted their horses, and, accompanied by a large body of Beloochees, took the route for Kotree; the Beloochees began to loot the people and the banyans. Informant having no arms, was obliged to go with the crowd with Mahomed Hoossein Ali Murree, whom he knew, and reached Kotree about 7 A.M. On the morning of the 8th, the Ameers stopped to take something to eat, and their intention was to go on to Koonheera, where their wives and kujawahs are. Informant took the opportunity to turn back to this place, reached Hurgorgah, seventeen coss from Dingee, on the morning of the 8th, and arrived at Dejee-ka-kote this evening at 5.

The general opinion is, that the Ameers have been given to understand by Meer Ali Moorad Khan, that, if captured by the General, they will be imprisoned; they have no intention of hostility against the English, but they foster the idea that, as the British troops have been withdrawn from Affghanistan and Shikarpore, at no remote period they will also be withdrawn from Sinde, and then they meditate the destruction of Meer Ali Moorad.

January 11.—Dewan Umul Rae, Ahmed Ali Khidmutgar, Buksh Ali Khidmutgar, servant of Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Ali Khan, in Meerpore Motalee, have resisted, with 1,000 or 1,200 men, the entry of Meer Ali Moorad's people; several lives have been lost by the latter, and they have been driven off. Meer Ali Moorad's people have plundered the houses of all the above in Khyrpore. Summud Khan Patan, with 300 horse, under Meer Nusseer Khan's orders, have taken possession of Muree, near Shikarpore, and driven out the followers of Meer Ali Moorad. Meer Roostum is said to be in Syda, nine coss from

Chickeree. Still reported that Meer Mahomed Khan has evacuated the fort of Emaum Ghur, and gone in the direction of Aliar-ka-Tanda with all his women and seventy camels of treasure, leaving a confidential person, Mahomed Hoossein, to de..ver up the fort to the General on arrival.

P.S.—The price of grain in the bazaar is rising without any just cause, and is two pucka seers dearer in camp than in the town.

January 21.—Informant sent to Koonhera to observe the Ameers Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, has just returned, and reports as follows: Meer Mahomed Hoossein and his wives are encamped in Meer Sohrab's garden, with Meer Nusseer Khan; also in Jumeer Ali's garden, Meer Mahomed Khan of Emaum Ghur with his wives, treasures, &c., the wives of Meer Zungee Khan, the wives of Meer Ali, and their armed followers, are encamped, amounting altogether to about 1,300 or 1,400 persons. Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan represented to Meer Mahomed Khan, that he was rich in treasure, and that if he would advance them money they would collect a force to oppose the English. Meer Mahomed Khan gave them 15,000 rupees, stating, at the same time, that the vicinity of Koonhera was not the place for hostilities, but that, if they would advance beyond Dingee, where water and grass are abundant, he would give them the remainder of two lacs of rupees, or even more, when required; but he would not advance any more money so long as they halted in Koonhera. Intelligence of the destruction of Meer Mahomed Khan's Fort of Emaum Ghur had reached him, that the guns made no impressions on the walls, but that the destruction had been effected by mining; the feeling of indignation against Meer Ali Moorad was very strong.

Informant, on his return, passed through the camp of Meer Ali Murdan and Mahabut Khan Murree at Tulloor, twenty coss this side of Koonhera, for which place they were *en route* with about 300 men; two horsemen, sent by Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan to bring Goolam Mahomed Chandia and Jaffir Khan Chandia, with their followers, to join the Ameers, accompanied informant on his return. Meer Nusseer Khan of Hyderabad had written to the Ameers, to say, that he had sent Vakeels to represent their case to the General; if it was not attended to, he would join them; the receipt of this letter had prevented their departure from Hyderabad.

Ahmed Khan Lugharee had written to the Ameers, to say that if no attention was paid to their grievances, he should not further consult the Hyderabad Ameers, but he would raise the whole of the Beloochees and join them and their cause. Informant states, that the Beloochees were sending their wives and families towards Lar and Hyderabad, and the country was deserted except by the dawk people and shepherds.

January 21, 8 P. M.—Informant just arrived from Meer Roostum's camp at Syda, states, Peer Ali Gohur arrived, and had an interview on the evening, 18th instant. The Peer told Meer Roostum, that if he had no objection, he would manage to reconcile all differences between him and Ali Moorad. Meer Roostum replied, that he would agree to anything that the Peer might suggest. The Peer, Ali Gohur, after taking refreshment, returned to Meer Ali Moorad. Julzul Khan Murree, Deen Mahomed Murree, Bhawil Khan, Damanee Lugharee, Beloochees Baggranees amounting, altogether, to about 1,500 men, are with Meer Roostum, but no idea of any hostility is thought of among them.

Major Outram having come into Syda to see Meer Roostum, it was agreed on the part of the latter, that he should move into Khyrpore in a day or two to arrange matters.

On the 20th instant, Lalla Lookamund was dispatched to Khyrpore to deliver a letter to Major Outram, in which it was stated, that Meer Roostum would await the return of Lalla Lookamund before he broke up his camp at Syda.

A letter was received by Meer Roostum from Jeyt Mull, Nawab of Shikarpore, stating that he had fought with Hookomut Khan and Sheik

Goolam Hyder, commanding Meer Ali Moorad's force, sent to take possession of Shikarpore; that he had killed seventeen of their people, and lost six of his own (all false), and that he had defeated, and taken the above persons prisoners; that Meer Roostum might rely on it, that he would not deliver up the revenue of Shikarpore to any one, at which Meer Roostum was much pleased.

January 22.—Yesterday morning (21st), about 7 A.M., a horseman delivered a letter to Meer Roostum, at Syda, from Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan; immediately on its receipt, orders were issued to prepare to move the camels; kujawahs, &c., were loaded, and Meer Roostum, and all his followers, marched from Syda, five coss in a southerly direction to a place called Doombee, and to-day he is expected to be in Teggur, and instead of going into Khyrpore to meet Major Outram, it is supposed that his intention is to join Meer Mahomed Hoossein and Meer Nusseer Khan in Koonhera. Informant left Meer Roostum's line of march while *en route* to Doombee.

T. CLIBBORN.

No. 450.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Camp, near Khyrpore, December* 31, 1842.

I AM still detained here by the rain. Intelligence has arrived through Ali Moorad, that the people at Dingee have moved eastward to Emaum Ghur, where all the northern Ameers are said to be assembled. These accounts, if true, do not affect my line of march. Without going into the desert, there is no managing these gentlemen, and I shall move the moment the wet will allow me. I keep a very strict discipline up. It would be a serious matter if the people who are now favourable to us should be turned against us by marauders. The rain has ceased, but the road will not be passable till after to-morrow. I have written to Ali Moorad the inclosed letter. I have no reason to doubt his fidelity to his own interests, and to us.

I hope the Bombay troops will bring their tents. We have none to spare at Sukkur. Your Lordship's approbation of my proceedings is very gratifying to me. Now that I have had time to reflect upon Meer Roostum's flight, the less I feel annoyed. It now appears to enable me to act with more decision regarding Ali Moorad. He must be made master of Emaum Ghur, which still seems to be their Gibraltar. It was Ali Moorad's, but he gave it to one of his relations three years ago.

No. 451.

Sir C. Napier to Meer Ali Moorad.

MEER ROOSTUM KHAN voluntarily went to your Highness' fortress of Dejee; he there publicly and formally placed the turban on your head: he then wrote solemnly in the sacred Koran that he had given to you the Turban of the Talpoor.

When I heard these things, I asked permission to wait upon the Ameer to speak with his Highness as to the new Treaty, and to hear from his own lips that he had given up public affairs to your guidance.

What was the course pursued by his Highness? he abandons your roof, he flies from me, he places himself at the head of those Ameers who

have been intriguing against the English, and who have, as you inform me, collected bands for the purpose of resistance to the authority of the Turban. This is strange conduct in the Ameer. The only course for me to pursue is, to advise your Highness publicly to proclaim to the Sindians, that you are the legitimate Chief of the Talpoors, to call on the other Ameers to obey you as such, and to dismiss their armed followers. If they refuse, I will disperse them by force. To these Ameers you will preserve their lands, but no fortress shall be held in Upper Sinde but by your Highness' Killadar.

No. 452.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

Camp, Moodky,
General, *Two marches from Ferozepore, January* 6, 1843.

I RECEIVED to-day your letters of the 27th and 29th of December.

I have written to the Commander-in-chief, requesting him to give directions that the Bombay cavalry and artillery, which must have marched on the 4th, shall push on as fast as they conveniently can, and that spare carriage shall be sent with them.

The 41st Queen's will, I trust, be upon the river to-day.

Bullocks, to replace those furnished by the Bombay Commissariat to the Bengal troops, have been already ordered to be sent with the Bombay cavalry and artillery. I trust that on their arrival they will require no aid in carriage from you.

If you want troops to make a demonstration upon Hyderabad from Kurachee, the Governor of Bombay will, I know, furnish them, upon your requisition, that is, he will reinforce Kurachee, upon your moving troops out of it.

I feel no confidence even in Ali Moorad. I believe he managed the flight of Meer Roostum. I think Meer Sobdar must have been forced into an apparent junction with the other chiefs of Hyderabad, and he will leave them as soon as he can.

The imprisonment of Futteh Mahomed Ghoree, is a very favourable event, if his captor holds him fast; but I doubt even this.

It is my impression, that nothing but a severe blow will make the chiefs generally, true to their engagements.

Do not have any scruple about keeping the Bengal troops, as long as they can be of the least service to you.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 453.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Doom, January* 7, 1843.

I MARCHED from Roree camp on the 26th ultimo, and arrived at Dejee the 4th instant. It is a strong fortress belonging to Ali Moorad. I here found such prevarication, and also such ignorance, that my intelligence regarding the road to Emaum Ghur amounted to nothing certain, and I became more than ever impressed with the objection which Ali Moorad, as well as all the Ameers, felt to our entering the desert; and I also considered it unsafe to risk a large force when I could ascertain nothing positive about water. All this confirmed me also in the belief that to reach Emaum Ghur is necessary to the tranquillity of Sinde. I, therefore, resolved to advance with a small force, and apply all my carriage to its efficiency, leaving the rest of the troops in camp at Dejee. Accordingly, I marched on the night of the 5th, at twelve o'clock, with 350 of the 22nd

Regiment (Queen's), and mounted the whole on camels, (two soldiers on each animal.) I took two 24-pound howitzers with double teams of camels, to ensure a relief, and 200 of the Sinde horse. I also brought provisions for fifteen days, and water for four days. We reached Choonka (about twenty-five miles distant from Dejee) yesterday at noon, the night having been very dark, and the tracks so slight that our guides lost their way, besides which the sand was deep in the first part of the march. We found plenty of good water at Choonka, but forage for horses so scarce that I have been obliged to send back 150, and I much doubt whether the remaining 50 can go above one march more. I took the two heavy howitzers of Captain Whitlie's Camel Battery, because, if Emaum Ghur refuses to admit me, I can batter it with these guns; whereas, had I taken 6-pounders, they would be useless unless in the open field. All my communication is on camels. As yet we have found abundance of forage for these animals, who walk the guns through the deepest sand without check or difficulty. We yesterday came so close upon the traces of Meer Roostum, that hearing that Major Outram was with me (to whom he is personally known, and who joined me just as I set off on this exploring expedition), he sent a messenger to him to say he was perfectly submissive. Major Outram asked my leave to go to him, as we were both convinced that Ali Moorad had frightened him. I told the Major, however, that I only agreed to his (the Ameer's) being made easy as to his personal safety; but that no concession or submission could reinstate him in the Turban, which he had resigned, and upon which I consider the tranquillity of Sinde to depend.

The Major returned with the son of Roostum, to whom I explained that his father is perfectly safe in person; that he will hold his lands according to your Lordship's draft of the Treaty, but must lose what is attached to the Turban; and that I would march to Emaum Ghur and place a killadar of Ali Moorad's in that fortress; that the old man (who, it seems, had been persuaded by Ali Moorad that I meant to imprison him for life, and who was perfectly exhausted by his flight), might return to Khyrpore, or live any where he pleased, as a simple Ameer. The son seemed satisfied with all this. I, therefore, consider Upper Sinde will be quite tranquil, in despite of the other sons and nephews, and the Hyderabad Ameers. I was at first startled at the escapade of Roostum, but more consideration convinces me it was even better it should be so; it makes the state of affairs more decided; and when I take Emaum Ghur, it appears to me that this circumstance will pretty nearly wind up everything. The more I reflect upon my position the more I am confident that everything in Upper Sinde will go well now. From Emaum Ghur I shall write to your Lordship again. I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ultimo. I cannot yet come to any satisfactory view of Lower Sinde, but I think that the panic which my occupation of Emaum Ghur will strike into the Court of Hyderabad, will enable me to see my way more clearly. I shall gradually hear more; at present I feel too little acquainted with the south of Sinde to venture to give your Lordship any good opinion. I shall now order the Bengal column to continue its march, I think, as I find the "large force" reported to have assembled at Dejee, amounts to 4000 men. I believe 2000 would be nearer the mark. However, I shall in a day or two have more correct information.

Your Lordship will, I hope, excuse this hurried letter. We have hardly any baggage or convenience with us. All carriage is given up to food and water; and I have also nearly all the details of the camp to execute in a great measure.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 454.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Putokee, January* 9, 1843.

I RECEIVED to-day your letter of the 31st.

The movement of the people from Dingee to Emaum Ghur is convenient, as your success will now settle all Sinde.

I confess I shall be anxious to hear that you have got the place; for an operation in the Desert is rather a delicate one.

I entirely approve of your letter to Ali Moorad.

I regret that the carelessness with which some indents for boats were delayed has prevented the departure of the 41st Queen's before to-morrow. I wrote to the officer commanding them, and he assures me that every possible exertion shall be made to take the regiment down to Sukkur as soon as possible.

There are eighty-five boats.

The Bombay troops must have their tents; but I think it not impossible that the 41st may have left theirs. They shall be sent after them.

The Bombay troops got all the stores I could afford them at Ferozepore. They have 350 bullocks with them to exchange for the bullocks furnished by the Bombay Commissariat to the Bengal troops, so those will be again at your disposal. The commissariat officer at Ferozepore offered them any aid they might require, but they did not want any cattle.

The officers belonging to Bombay, to whom the Commander-in-chief had given leave, have had orders sent after them in four directions to rejoin their corps at Sukkur, which the Commander-in-chief tells me they will be able to do. I had declined to give leave to the officer who applied to me upon the subject.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 455.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Camp, near Emaum Ghur, January* 13, 1843.

I ARRIVED here yesterday. The Desert presented some difficulties, but we overcame them all. I have brought on the fifty irregular horse, and though our camels were miserable animals, worn out in Affghanistan, we have not lost above eight or nine at the utmost, which, out of nearly 600, is nothing. The camel battery has acquitted itself admirably; not a single camel knocked up, and the last three days have been very trying, as scarcely any food could be procured, and the hills of pure sand very steep. We were frequently obliged to assist them with infantry. The efficacy of this battery in Sinde is now past dispute. We could not have done the work with horses, without an enormous number of camels to carry water and forage for them.

This fortress is exceedingly strong against any force without artillery. The walls are forty feet high; one tower is fifty, and built of burned bricks; it is a square with eight round towers, surrounded by an exterior wall of fifteen feet high, lately built with the intention of opposing us, I believe. Within it is a vast quantity of powder, which had been distributed in various parts, and built up so as to be concealed. There are some bomb-proof chambers. Against heavy guns it could not stand, being commanded on all sides.

When I reflected that the existence of Emaum Ghur can only serve to foster confidence in the Ameers of both Sindes, when discontented or rebellious, and will, sooner or later, force us to another and more perilous march perhaps, I made up my mind to blow it down. It belongs to Ali

Moorad, who consents to its destruction: I have, therefore, undermined it. The vast quantity of powder which we cannot remove will be better destroyed. It is well stored with grain, which I have distributed as rations.

I shall return the day after to-morrow as far as Tujul, where the road branches off to Dingee; and if my intelligence gives me reason to believe that any force be still there, I will march upon them with this detachment. They have now no refuge in the Desert, and must either fight, or cross the Indus, or disperse. I am going to order all the Ameers or their vakeels, to meet Major Outram at Khyrpore, and I trust the Treaty will now go on smoothly. I hear that the fort of Shahgurh refuses to receive Ali Moorad's killadar; if so, I must move from Dejee against it; for every information that I can get here agrees that there is no water or road of any kind from this to Shahgurh. If necessary, I would try to pass; but my force is too small to divide, and the reports of a gathering of the tribes at Dingee, make it necessary to leave Shahgurh alone at present.

I have not a man sick in camp.

No. 456.

Sir C. Napier to Major Outram.

Sir, *Camp, Emaum Ghur, January* 15, 1843.

YOU will be pleased to proceed to Khyrpore, there to meet the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde, or their vakeels, and arrange with them the details of the new Draft Treaty.

2. You will be pleased to ascertain that the vakeels (if any) are so instructed as to leave no necessity for any reference that, in your opinion, may impede the negotiation of the new Treaty.

3. Should any difficulty arise during the arrangement of the details of this Treaty, which, in your opinion, may require a reference either to myself, or to his Lordship, you are requested to give me timely notice thereof, that I may endeavour to remove such difficulties, without causing delay.

4. Should any arrangement strike you by which all, or any of the parties concerned, may be benefited, and which your great experience in Upper, and more especially in Lower Sinde, renders very probable; you are requested to propose such arrangement to me, that I may, if necessary, submit the same to the Governor-General for his Lordship's decision; it being always understood that such modification or arrangement be not contrary to the spirit and principle of the Draft Treaty, as signed by the Governor-General, subject to confirmation.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

No. 457.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, Mitree, January* 17, 1843.

ON the evening of the 15th, the demolition of Emaum Ghur was completed. Thirty-four mines were sprung, the last finishing the whole of the powder found in the fortress, viz., about 20,000 lbs.

On that day I also dispatched Major Outram to Khyrpore to meet ai the Ameers, or their vakeels, on the 20th instant. I have the honor to inclose to your Lordship a copy of my circular to their Highnesses, and of my instruction to Major Outram. I waited for the Ameers to hear of our doings at Emaum Ghur, and then while their alarm is fresh, and my line of march unknown to them, they will be pliant and give full powers to their vakeels. I hope thus to force them into promptness, for I have

all along seen their determination to procrastinate till the hot weather arrives. I propose to halt the day after to-morrow at or near Tujul (where the road branches off to Dingee and Hyderabad), so as to be ready to fulfil the threat contained in my letter, and to let them see that I am so; I have also ordered out supplies to meet me, which will show them that I am in earnest. I hear that our march to Emaum Ghur has, as I expected, dispersed the tribes assembling at Dingee; they saw they were cut off from the desert; while that was behind them, with Emaum Ghur full of both gunpowder and grain, as it was, they would, I think, have plucked up courage to fight, thinking I should march against by the usual route through Maneepore. If on arrival at Tujul I find they have not dispersed as we hear, then I have them between us and the river, an awkward position for them, as the river is not fordable. But there is no chance of their fighting now. I am persuaded our intelligence is correct, that their troops have wholly dispersed in great alarm. Tujul is (on your Lordship's map) very near Katar, and Dingee near to Cheeaput. Emaum Ghur is on the same map (Walker's) an inch W.N.W. of the Natron Lake near Gunaidie.

We have not had the slightest accident, and there is not a sick man in camp, neither soldier nor camp-follower.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 458.

Sir C. Napier to the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde.

Camp, Emaum Ghur, January 15, 1843.

I HAVE directed Major Outram to proceed to Khyrpore on the 20th day of January, 1843, where he will meet you and the other Ameers of both Upper and Lower Sinde, or your vakeels, as may seem best to your Highness and their Highnesses respectively; but, in the latter case, I insist upon it, that such vakeel as any Ameer may send, shall have full powers to treat with Major Outram; and if any vakeel shall declare that he has not such powers, I will exclude him from the meeting, and consider that his master refuses to treat; and I will enter the territories of such Ameer with the troops under my orders, and take possession of them in the name of the British Government; moreover, I solemnly pledge my word for the perfect security and freedom of all the Ameers and their vakeels so assembled to meet my Commissioner, Major Outram, to whom, on my part, I have delegated all the powers vested in me by the Governor-General.

No. 459.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp at Luk, January* 18, 1843.

I HAVE received your Lordship's letters dated 6th and 9th instant. I shall not require a stronger force than I have. I have just finished our march out of the sandy desert; it has been a very laborious one: we are now in reach of provisions and water in abundance. I am sure all will now be quiet; but I shall continue to give your Lordship information relative to the proceedings at Hyderabad, as I receive it. My circular letter to the Ameers will put an end to all trifling and procrastinating diplomacy.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 460.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp, Pir Abubuklur, January* 22, 1843.

THIS place is nine miles from Dejee; the troops there join me to-morrow. We are on a direct road to Hyderabad, and I propose to remain in this threatening position till Major Outram has well advanced with the details of the Treaty; should these flag, I will advance nearer to Hyderabad, which will give new vigour to the proceedings, and, at the same time, shorten our march in case of need.

At a mile from this place we crossed a range of hills, trending southward from Roree. These hills mark the western limits of the desert, called the Thur, and also, Rajistan. We are now in Sinde Proper. How far this range of hill runs to the south, I do not know.

From Emaum Ghur, I sent Lieutenant Fitzgerald, of the Sinde Horse, through the Desert to Balmeer, to explore that unknown track of communication with India. Lieutenant Fitzgerald is a zealous, bold, and very powerful young man, besides being a good surveyor. I thought the opportunity of our being in the midst of the desert was a good one to ascertain the particulars of that route, and, indeed, whether any exists, for our information seemed vague and unsatisfactory. The fear caused by our appearance at Emaum Ghur makes the experiment less dangerous: but we heard that there are one or two lawless tribes; and I should not have ordered an officer to go; Lieutenant Fitzgerald asked me leave, out of a spirit of adventure and curiosity. I think he ought to have four rupees a-day while so employed, if your Lordship approves of it; but I have not said so to him. I also think the three Sinde horsemen that I sent with him, should have a quarter of a rupee a-day each.

I must tell your Lordship an anecdote of Major Waddington of the Engineers. In blowing up Emaum Ghur, he took three mines to fire himself—they were close together; having fired the fusees of two, he with his characteristic deliberation, proceeded to apply his match to the third, which would not ignite. An officer who was with him cried out, "Good God, Waddington, come away; the two mines will explode directly," and immediately the officer very properly ran off to a tree, itself much too close, but he did not like to leave the Major, whose answer was, with his accustomed slow way of speaking, "I can't help that, this mine must be fired;" and there he actually remained till the third was lighted, and the other two did explode, and he escaped, walking away (for the officer told me it could not be called a run for any one but Waddington) under a shower of ruins, with his hands over his head to save it from falling bricks. This was a very foolish thing to do, but one cannot help admiring the cool resolution of the man.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

No. 461.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Kurnaul, January* 26, 1843.

I HAD great satisfaction in receiving to-day your letter of the 13th instant, announcing that you were in possession of Emaum Ghur, and that you intended to destroy it.

I now again entertain the hope, that all the arrangements consequent upon the new treaties accepted by the Ameers, will be carried into effect without bloodshed, a result on every account most desirable, which will be mainly owing to the decision and enterprise with which you have been acting.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 462.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General *Camp, Kurnaul, January* 28, 1843.

I HAD the satisfaction of receiving to-day your letters of the 17th and 18th, from Mitree and Luk.

I congratulate you on your having destroyed Emaum Ghur, and being well out of the Desert.

Your letter to the Ameers will, I have no doubt, be thoroughly understood, and produce the intended effect.

You are quite right in fencing their procrastination. The hot season will soon be upon us, and no time is to be lost in finishing the transaction, and placing the troops in secure and healthy positions.

I should be glad to see Ali Moorad with a small body of regular troops; but I apprehend that any troops he may raise will soon become irregular for want of pay.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 463.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

(Extract.) *Kellaunee, January* 28, 1843.

I ARRIVED here this day; it is about twelve miles from the river, and on the high road between Khyrpore and Hyderabad. The Ameers of the latter court have all sent vakeels with full powers to Major Outram: the Ameers of Khyrpore have not, and I have sent to them the proclamation of which I inclose to your Lordship a copy. I hope your Lordship may approve of what I do, for I am obliged to act on the spur of the moment and decisively, speaking plainly. The season will not permit of my losing time. The southern Ameers have all refused to join those of Khyrpore in measures of opposition. I have heard that they are not in force, but I can obtain no trustworthy account of their numbers, nor a very accurate idea of their position. The Ameers of Hyderabad refused them entrance in Lower Sinde. From Peer Abubukur I sent Captain Jacob with the Sinde Horse to move down the road flanking the desert, and running parallel to the road along the river, by which I move. They must therefore disperse or fight; in the latter case they must be destroyed; Hyderabad closed against them in rear, the river on their left, Jacob on their right, and my force in their front. It is therefore hardly possible to believe that they will not disperse. If they were to slip past Captain Jacob, and get into the desert, as they can easily do, they have now no refuge there.

As the Ameers of Hyderabad have so far acted well in sending their ministers, I have desired Major Outram to remove to Hyderabad, which he thinks will expedite the negotiations, and may induce the others to listen to reason.

No. 464.

Proclamation addressed by Sir C. Napier to the Ameers of Upper Sinde.

January 27, 1843.

I WAS ordered to make a new Treaty with you. Your Highnesses agreed to the Draft of that Treaty in words, while you raised troops to oppose it in deeds. You were ordered to disperse your troops, you did not disperse them; you hoped to deceive me by a pretended agreement to

the Draft Treaty. You thought you could procrastinate till the hot weather should prevent any military operation by the British troops; then you imagined you could assail us on all sides with impunity. If we marched against you before the heat came, you thought our march would be late, and you resolved to resist with arms; if worsted in fight, you looked to the desert as a certain refuge. You were right, had we abided your time, and marched by the road you expected. But we preferred our own time and our own road; we marched into your desert, we destroyed your magazine of powder and of grain, we destroyed also the fortress in which they were (as you vainly supposed) safely lodged, we have returned out of the desert, and we have yet three months of weather fit for war. But I want to prevent war. I therefore wrote to you to meet Major Outram at Khyrpore on the 25th instant, there to discuss and arrange the details of the Draft Treaty, to accept or reject them as seemed best to your Highnesses. What is the result? Your Highnesses have neither replied to my letter, nor sent delegates invested with authority to meet my Commissioner. This conduct is insulting to the Government which I serve. I told you that if you so acted, I would take possession of your territories, but my object is to avoid hostilities while I obey the orders of the Governor-General. I therefore will still give you to the first of February to send your vakeels to my head-quarters, in hope that you may correct the imprudence with which you have hitherto acted, and which I deeply regret. My military operations must however go forward, but your persons shall be respected; you shall be considered as friends up to the first day of February, after that day I shall treat all as enemies, who not sent vakeels to meet me.

Ameers,

You imagine that you can procrastinate till your fierce sun drives the British troops out of the field, and forces them to seek shelter in Sukkur. You trusted to your Desert, and were deceived; you trust to your deadly sun, and may again be deceived. I will not write a second letter to you, nor a second time expose the authority which I represent to indignity; but this proclamation will, I hope, induce you to adopt a manly instead of an insidious course.

No. 465.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

General, *Camp, Gurounda, January* 30, 1843.

I RECEIVED to-day your letter of the 22nd from Pir Abubukkur.

I will willingly sanction the payment of the sum you think Lieutenant Fitzgerald and the Sinde horsemen ought to receive, on account of their march to Balmeer.

You appear to suppose that the route from Balmeer to the Indus is unknown; but it was recently used by Lieutenant Ravenscroft and a detachment of the 3rd Bombay Cavalry.

I have, &c.,
ELLENBOROUGH.

No. 466.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Camp at Beeria, January* 30, 1843.

I HAVE received a letter from Brigadier Wallace. He has given Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara over to the Nawab, who has sent people to take possession thereof. The Brigadier has, therefore, continued his march towards Ferozepore.

With regard to the rich district between Bhoong Bhara and the

town of Roree, the loss of which presses very heavily on the Ameers of Khyrpore, and, in fact, has thrown them into consternation, perhaps your Lordship would either allow them to retain it, or permit me to consider the subject in detail, and lay before you some project less painful to the feelings of the Ameers, who, I understand, are now resolved to consent to the Treaty in all its provisions. This doubtful intelligence I received after my letter of yesterday had been dispatched.

I have, &c.,
C. J. NAPIER.

P.S.—I shall march to Nowshara to-morrow, and there await Major Outram's arrival at Hyderabad, and also some supplies for the European troops.

No. 467.

The Governor-General to Sir C. Napier.

(Extract.) *Camp, Delhi, February 9,* 1843.

I HAVE just received your letter of the 30th ultimo.

The object of giving to the Nawab of Bhawulpore, the country between Bhoong Bhara and Roree, was to establish a communication between our territories on the Sutledj and Roree, through a friendly State, rather than to inflict any further punishment on the Ameers of Khyrpore. The object of establishing this communication may probably be effected without giving to the Nawab the whole of the pergunnahs intervening between Bhoong Bhara and Roree. Enough will be done if we secure a good military and commercial communication.

If you should be of opinion that the cession originally demanded, presses too heavily upon the Ameers, I shall be glad to receive any suggestions, you may wish to offer, for its modification.

All the Nawab of Bhawulpore has lost should be restored to him. I do not know whether he ever had any country to the south of Bhoong Bhara. The restoration to the Nawab of all he has lost, would be felt everywhere to be a measure at once of generosity and of justice.

No. 468.

Notes by Major Outram of his Conferences with the Ameers of Sinde, February 8th and 9th, 1843.

Present:

Ameers of Lower Sinde.—Meer Nusseer Khan (and sons), Meer Mahomed Khan, (Meer Sobdar Khan and Ali Hoossein were visited separately.)

Ameers of Upper Sinde.—Meer Roostum Khan (and sons), Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Mahomed Khan.

AFTER receiving and welcoming me with their usual cordiality and customary compliments, the Durbar was cleared of all but the parties above mentioned, and I then inquired of their Highnesses whether they were prepared to subscribe the new Treaties lately tendered to them?

The following is the purport of the discussion which followed, which was prolonged upwards of three hours by repetition of the same arguments:—

Ameers of Hyderabad (producing the former treaties, and Meer Nusseer Khan especially pointing to one dated April, 1838, and signed by Lord Auckland, which pledged never to covet any portion of that Ameer's territory, or "one rea" of his property.) "Why is it that you now make new demands? Four years have only passed since your Sirkar thus pledged that nothing more should be required of us."

Commissioner. "These Treaties having been broken by your own acts, the British Government is compelled to require these new stipulations."

Ameers. "We deny that we have infringed one iota of the existing treaties? In what have we done so?"

Commissioner. "The particulars were stated to your Highnesses in the letter from Sir C. Napier, presented by Lieutenant Stanley, with the draft of the new Treaty."

Ameers. "It was written, that treasonable letters had been sent to Beebruck Boogtie and Sawun Mull. Why were those letters not produced? Why don't you give us an opportunity of disproving them? We never wrote them."

Commissioner. "They are with the Governor-General."

Ameers. "You say the seals prove them. How easily seals are forged, you yourself know, having required us to punish one of our own subjects who forged yours, when you resided here two years ago."

Commissioner. "The handwriting was also ascertained to be that of one of your confidential scribes."

Meer Nusseer Khan. "I solemnly deny that it was written by my authority. Why was not the paper shewn to me?"

Commissioner. "These are points which it is not for me to discuss. The question is, whether or not you accept the new Treaty? If not, the army under Sir Charles Napier will continue to advance. If you do, I shall endeavour to arrange the consequent details as fairly as possible to each Ameer, which is my only duty."

Ameers. "If the army advances, our Beloochees will not be restrained, and we shall be blamed for the consequences."

Commissioner. "Do not suppose that the army will be delayed one moment by any assembly of your Beloochees, who, if they appear before it, will certainly be attacked, and the excuse that you could not restrain them will be of no avail. As customary in all nations, the Government will be held responsible for the acts of its people."

Ameers. "You know how little under control our Beloochees are. If the army advances, they will plunder the whole country."

Commissioner. "It is in your own power to prevent it, by complying with the terms. The moment you do so, I will dispatch a British officer to inform Sir C. Napier."

Ameers. "We deny the charges on which the new Treaty is imposed, but still we will subscribe it, and the Ameers of Upper Sinde will also subscribe theirs, on one condition, *i. e.*, that Meer Roostum Khan be restored to his rights. Why was he deposed?"

Commissioner. "He resigned the Turban of his own free will, and wrote to Sir Charles Napier to request that it might be made over to Meer Ali Moorad."

Meer Roostum. "By the General's own direction, I sought refuge with Ali Moorad, (here he produced the letter directing Meer Roostum to place himself under Meer Ali Moorad's protection, and to be guided by his advice,) who placed me under restraint, and made use of my seal, and compelled me to do as he thought proper. Would I resign my birthright of my own free will? I did not write that letter.* Anything that I did, was by Ali Moorad's advice, whose advice I was directed by the General to be guided by."

Commissioner. "Why did you not meet me at Khyrpore, as you promised?"

Meer Roostum. "I was advised not to go, at Ali Moorad's instigation, who sent three different persons to deceive me."

Ameers. "Do you know the value of the territory taken from Upper Sinde?"

Commissioner. "About six lacs, I understand?"

Ameers. "Does the Governor-General know?"

Commissioner. "The General has informed the Governor-General."

Meer Mahomed Khan (of Khyrpore). "What fault have I committed, and why has my house been destroyed and my property been plundered? (Emaum Ghur.)"

* Captain Brown informs me, that the letter alluded to was returned to Meer Ali Moorad.

Commissioner. "No property was in Emaum Ghur but some grain, which the General ordered to be paid for."

After much conversation of the above tenor, the Ameers again entreated me to obtain the restoration of Meer Roostum to his rights, which they declared was the only obstacle to their signing the Treaty, and complying with all that is required of them.

I replied, that if Meer Roostum could prove the forgery of the paper resigning his turban to Meer Ali Moorad, and the other deceptions which he asserted had been practised against him, he should petition the General to that effect; but that that had nothing to do with the new Draft Treaties, and it did not rest with me, whether or not anything would be done for Meer Roostum.

The Ameers then begged me to write to the General to delay his march, if only for a day or two, while these matters were deliberated, being, they said, of too much importance to be decided in a moment, on the plea, that, if the British troops did advance, it would be impossible to restrain the Beloochees from outrages which would commit themselves with the British Government; and that once the Beloochees broke from control, the whole country would suffer, whether the territory of friend or foe.

I replied, that nothing could stop the advance of the army excepting a full and unconditional acceptance of the new Treaty, which I would immediately communicate to the General, who might then, I hoped, be induced to halt.

The Ameers at last ended by saying, that they protested against the charges on which the new Treaty was required, as unfounded, but that they would comply with the terms, provided I advised them to do so, and that they might petition the Governor-General with a view to represent the falsehood of the charges.

To this I replied, that the charges were considered fully substantiated, but that, of course, Sir Charles Napier would not object to the Ameers making any representation they chose, provided they complied with the terms of the Treaty; moreover, I advised them, as a friend, to comply at once with what they were prepared to concede, for that delay could only be injurious to them; that resistance must end in their destruction; and all attempts to appear formidable, by calling together their Beloochees, would avail them nought towards checking the advance of the British troops, or causing us to relax one iota in our demands. I recommended their Highnesses to come at once to a decision, and to send their vakeels to me in the morning, fully empowered to conclude everything that was required; that, in that expectation, I should delay my dispatch to the General until noon to-morrow. They promised to consult, and let me know in the morning. We took leave, and returned to the Agency about 8 P.M., after paying a complimentary visit to Meers Sobdar and Hoossein Ali Khan, with whom I had no discussion, they being quite prepared to execute the Treaty, should the others do so.

Lest my memory should have failed me, I read the above to Captain Brown, who accompanied me to the Durbar. He says it embraces everything that was said on my part, but that much that was said by the Ameers in defence of themselves, and especially on behalf of Meer Roostum Khan, is omitted; that I did not consider necessary to enter more in detail.

9th February, 10 A.M.—The Durbar Moonshee attended with a message from the Ameers, requesting me to visit them again this afternoon, to hold another consultation, to which I replied, that any further discussion could be of no avail; that the British troops were approaching by daily marches; and that nothing but the immediate acceptance of the Treaty would be admitted.

5 P.M.—Deputies from the five Ameers of Hyderabad waited on me, and applied the seals of their Highnesses to a written pledge on their behalf to accept the new Treaty.

Notes of Conference with the Ameers of Sinde, on the evening of the 12th February, 1843.

Present:—

Meer Nusseer Khan
Meer Mahomed Khan } *of Hyderabad.*
Meer Shahdad Khan

Meer Roostum Khan
Meer Nusseer Khan } *of Khyrpore.*
Meer Mahomed Khan.

And many of their sons and relations.

Captain Brown and the officers of Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment, &c., accompanied Major Outram.

AFTER the usual preliminaries, Major Outram produced the Persian copies of the Draft Treaties, formerly submitted to the Ameers by Sir Charles Napier, through Captain French at Khyrpore, and Lieutenant Stanley at Hyderabad, and requested their Highnesses to apply their seals in his presence, as previously pledged to do by their vakeels.

A long discussion then ensued between the Ameers and Major Outram, regarding Meer Roostum's affairs, much to the same purport as what passed at the former interview, they insisting that Major Outram had full authority to investigate the case, according to the letter they had received from the General, informing them that he had been deputed to settle all affairs, and Major Outram repeating that his instructions only referred to the Draft Treaties formerly submitted from the Governor-General, after accepting which he had merely to arrange the details between the several Ameers: Major Outram said, however, that he would be happy to receive and forward to the General any representation Meer Roostum wished to make on the subject, and that he was confident Sir Charles Napier would strictly inquire into the truth or otherwise of all he (Meer Roostum) had to allege. The Ameers then endeavoured to induce Major Outram to declare that, in the event of Meer Roostum proving everything he had advanced, his chiefship and what had been made over from the Upper Sinde Ameers to Ali Moorad would be restored. Major Outram replied, that it was not in his power to say what would be done, but doubtless every investigation would be made, and, if what Meer Roostum had advanced was fully proved, he trusted that the Meer's claims, at least to the property, would be made good, but that he did not see how Meer Roostum could disprove his own letter, making over the "Rais" to Ali Moorad. The Ameers said Meer Roostum could and would prove all he had asserted with regard to his having been confined by Ali Moorad; having, when in confinement, had his seal forcibly taken from him; having been induced to fly by Ali Moorad when the General was coming to Dejee Kote, &c. &c. Major Outram said, that this case rested with the General, and he hoped that Sir Charles Napier would soon come here himself, when he (Major Outram) trusted that it would be fully inquired into.

After long urging this point, the Ameers of Hyderabad applied their seals to the Draft of the new Treaty, as did Meer Roostum and Meer Mahomed of Khyrpore; but Meer Nusseer Khan of Khyrpore, after sending repeatedly for his brother, who, he said, had possession of his seal, at last promised to attend on Major Outram (or send a confidential person) with it to-morrow morning.

It being then very late, and having in his possession the previous agreement to accept the Treaty, sealed by Nusseer Khan's accredited vakeel, Major Outram allowed the arrangement, and then proceeded to Meer Sobdar's Durbar, where that Ameer and Meer Hoossein Ali sealed the treaty without demur, after having read it over in public.

Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Mahomed, and Shahdad Khan, made certain remarks on each Article, which are noted opposite to each; also requested the customary preamble and concluding Article, to the effect that "all former

treaties between the Contracting Parties not rescinded by the provisions of this engagement remain in force." This Major Outram said would of course be done in the ratified treaties, and would be sent by the Governor-General, of which these were merely the drafts.

On returning home, after leaving the fort, Major Outram and his companions had to pass through a dense crowd of Beloochees, who gave unequivocal evidence of bad feeling in their manner and expressions, but were kept from giving further vent to their feelings by a strong escort of horse the Ameers sent, under some of their most influential chiefs.

Major Outram had been aware that the Beloochees had been flocking into the capital since the night before, in consequence of the news having spread, that the British army had crossed the frontier; and that the Ameers had been occupied all day in endeavouring to disperse them.

After getting clear of the crowd, Major Outram was informed, that one of the officers in his company had been struck with a stone, but the officer in the darkness did not see by whom the stone was thrown. As it was evident that the Durbar had done its utmost to prevent outrage, by the fact of the unusually strong escort sent with him (the Durbar officers refusing to leave at the usual place when told to do so, and continuing their escort until the party arrived close to the Agency), and moreover, as the gentleman struck did not mention the circumstance at the time when the Ameers' officers might have taken steps to apprehend the culprit, Major Outram did not deem it necessary to make any representation on the subject to their Highnesses.

Notes of Conference on the 13th February, 1843.

AT 3, P.M.—Nawab Mahomed Khan and Moonshee Chotram attended from the Ameers, to say that, after my departure from the Durbar last night, all the Belooch Sirdars met; and finding that I had given no pledges whatever that Meer Roostum and the Upper Sinde Ameers should get back their lands which had been transferred to Ali Moorad, or Meer Roostum be reinstated as Rais, notwithstanding that they (the Ameers) had agreed to the treaty required of them by the Governor-General, they had unanimously resolved to assemble to oppose the British troops; had sworn on the Koran to do so, and not to sheathe the sword until Meer Roostum and his brethren had obtained their rights; and that they were determined to march out to-night to fight the British army; that the Ameers had lost all control over them, and could not be answerable for what they did. To this I replied, that whatever the Ameers said as to the Beloochees being disobedient, would avail their Highnesses nothing; that they inevitably would be made to answer for whatever their subjects did in the shape of hostility to the British, or plundering the country; that if their Highnesses could not control their people, it would be considered that they were unfit to rule them; and therefore it will be at the Ameers' own peril if their Belooch followers are not immediately dismissed, for that the General would certainly march on Hyderabad with his army the moment he learnt that the Beloochees had assembled in arms, which I had written to inform him of on receipt of the message sent by the Durbar, through Mhadajee Moonshee, this morning.

The Deputies then talked a long time of the anxiety of the Ameers to dismiss the Beloochees, but that as they (the Belooch Sirdars) had sworn one and all, to uphold the rights of Meer Roostum and his brethren, that they (their Highnesses) were helpless. To which I only reiterated the same reply. At last they said, "At least give us some pledge that justice shall be done, by which the Ameers may endeavour to allay the excitement of the people, and persuade them to disperse—we fear it will be impossible, but their Highnesses will try once more, if you will authorize them to hold out hopes of the ultimate restoration of their lands which have been made over to Ali Moorad." I said that I myself was confident that the General would give the most favourable consideration in his power to the representation of their case, and that I hoped good to them would result from the investigation which I was sure would be instituted as to the truth of what they (the Khyrpore Ameers) had advanced; but that it was not in my power to pledge what would be the result, where I myself had not the power to decide. "In that case," rejoined the Deputies, "will the Khyrpore Ameers not be allowed to settle their own affair with Ali Moorad without your interference?" "Certainly not," I

replied, "any attack upon Ali Moorad will be a breach of the Treaty, and treated as an act of hostility to the British."

Deputies. "This is very hard—you will neither promise restoration of what had been taken from them by Ali Moorad, nor will you allow them to right themselves: everything that the British Government wanted from them they had given and agreed to; why oppress them any further? Promise to restore the lands All Moorad had taken. They have given you all you wanted for yourself and Bhawul Khan without a murmur;" and so on, repeating the same demands over and over again. At last the Deputies said, "If you will not promise restoration of the lands Ali Moorad has taken, the Khyrpore Ameers must fight for their bread. Why should we be answerable?" You will not be answerable, I observed, for what they do, provided you do not allow them to commit hostilities within the Hyderabad bounds and afford no aid; if the Khyrpore Ameers are determined to court destruction, let them go out of the Hyderabad territory, and let no assistance be given to them by the Hyderabad Ameers and subjects, in which case I will pledge myself that the army will not come to Hyderabad, and that no harm shall befall the Hyderabad Ameers."

The deputies said they would report what had passed, but that they had no hope of allaying the excitement of the Beloochees unless I would authorize some more positive assurance to the Upper Sinde Ameers; that if any reply was to be given they would bring it that night; otherwise, that I was to consider that their masters could do nothing further.

They took leave about 6 P.M., and did not return.

J. OUTRAM.

No. 469.

The Envoy at the Court of Lahore to the Secretary with the Governor-General.

Sir, *Umballa, February* 11, 1843.

I HAVE the honor to transmit a khureeta, with translation annexed, from the Nawab of Bhawulpore, expressing his gratitude to the Governor-General, for his gift of the districts of Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara.

I have, &c.,
G. CLERK.

No. 470.

Nawab Bhawul Khan of Bhawulpore, to the Governor-General.
(*Received February* 10, 1843.)

YOU very kindly issued orders to my friend General Charles Napier, to bestow on me Subzulkote and Bhoong Bhara, my districts by hereditary right, and accordingly he gave directions to Colonel Wallace, proceeding from Sukkur Ferozepore, to transfer these pergunnas. The Colonel, therefore, on reaching Subzulkote, gave them over to the charge of my officers. This has taken place through your Lordship's great kindness and liberality, and how can my thanks for such exceeding generosity be offered? They can neither be written or uttered. I, the well-wisher, having, since the very first day, strengthened the ties of devotion to the British Government, am now entirely dependent on its friendly offices and good-will, and it is in furtherance of these friendly desires that the same kind attentions have also been received from your Lordship, and why should it not be so? The report of your goodness and kind treatment of friends is famous throughout the world; and the present marked kindness that has been shewn to me, has carried your good name from the earth to the heavens, and has given every pleasing hope to the well-wishers of the British Government. Considering me to be entirely dependent on your goodness, I hope you will always be kind enough to add to my pleasure by favouring me with good accounts of your health.

No. 471.

Sir C. Napier to the Governor-General.

My Lord, *Sukurunda, February* 13, 1843.

THE Ameers promised yesterday to sign the Treaty, and I hope to hear to-morrow that they have done so, because Major Outram assures me that they will. I have halted three days here, ostensibly at the request of the Ameers; but really, because the camels, worn out in the Affghan war, are so weak that I was obliged to give them some rest. I should not have written to your Lordship till I could send an account of the Treaty being actually signed, but for the following circumstance. Captain Jacob with the Sinde horse is in my front; my orders were to disarm all parties which might pass near his troops; and, if they were too strong, to send off to me. Yesterday morning twenty-five armed Beloochees, (most of them being chiefs of the Murree tribe,) passing towards Hyderabad, were arrested. They refused to give up their arms, or to come into head-quarters, and Captain Jacob, very properly, sent to me to ask for orders.

By a display of force, I hoped to prevent bloodshed, and sent a squadron of the 9th Light Cavalry, which, without trouble, brought them in as prisoners. I had them searched, and found the two letters which I send, proving the duplicity of Mahomed Khan of Hyderabad; for, at the same time that he wrote the letters I send marked 1 and 2, he wrote to me the letter marked 3, deprecating my march before the 9th instant, as I had promised. I had promised no such thing. It is now plain that they wanted to delay till the 9th to get their people together. The "Mooharum" prevented this; because the chiefs could not get their followers to march while that religious feast lasted. This ended, off they started for the rendezvous at Meeanee, twelve miles from Hyderabad, as all my information concurs in stating, and as the arrest of these chiefs proves; for they were preceded by several hundreds of their men, who passed on the right but off sight of Jacob's camp.

In these circumstances I mean to wait till I receive the signatures to the Treaty; and then act towards the culprit Ameer as circumstances seem to demand, unless, in the meantime, I receive further instructions from your Lordship.

I expected, when I ordered Jacob to arrest armed men, that I should alight upon something to elucidate matters; but to catch so many chiefs, and so clear a letter, was my good luck.

I have, &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 471.

Meer Mahomed Khan of Hyderabad, to the Address of Hyat Michin, and Gholam, and Meer Khan, &c., Murrees.

STATES his intention of proceeding with a force of Beloochees on Thursday the 9th of the present month, towards Purgunnah. That he will halt at Meeanee to arrange his plans.

He therefore writes the present letter to apprise them of his intention, and to desire that they will join him with all their retainers. So soon, therefore, as this letter is received, the persons above named are requested to collect all their forces of every description and every disposable person, and meet him at the station of Meeanee. Requests that no delay may occur.

Inclosure 2 in No. 471.

Meer Mahomed Khan of Khyrpore to Hyat Khan Murree.

DESIRES him not to be disturbed, as whatever arrangements the Nawab has made will hold good.

Desires him to obey implicitly any instructions which may be given to him by Muhim Khan and Gholam Shah, and to remain faithful.

Written on the back of the Persian copy of No. 2, by Sir C. Napier.

"The Gholam Shah was Mahomed Khan's deputy with full powers to meet Major Outram; and there can be no doubt whatever that this note (which is entirely written with the Ameer's own hand) relates to the raising the Murree tribe. This note being to the same person as the treasonable letter, in my opinion, proves this, and shows that Gholam Shah was acting the part of plenipotentiary, spy, and recruiting officer too, and against us. He had truly full power given to him."

Inclosure 3 in No. 471.

Meers Nusseer Khan, Meer Mahomed Khan, and Sobdar Khan, to Sir C. Napier. (No date, received on the evening of the 7th February, 1843.)

ACCORDING to the agreement with your Excellency, Meerza Khosrow Beg, Yoosoof Beg, and Gholam Shah Lugharee, proceeded to our brother Meer Roostum, and proposed with him regarding his movement towards Hyderabad, as a strong friendship, brotherhood, and relationship was existing between us. The Ameer had started for Hyderabad previous to any invitation on our part, where he and Meer Nusseer Khan and Meer Mahomed Khan arrived on the 4th February 1843. Your Excellency having promised to our vakeels, that, until the arrival of Colonel Outram, and discussion of matters, you would remain at Nowshera until the 9th instant, and not move further on this part, we beg to inform your Excellency that Colonel Outram did not reach this up to the 5th, and Meer Roostum, who is an old venerable man, and the chief and head of all the family of Meer Choker Khan, has suffered gross treatment and great injustice that he did not deserve, such as it is out of our power to explain. When Colonel Outram reaches Hyderabad, we will tell him all that has passed, through whom your Excellency will learn everything about the affair, and also enter into the details of the treaty with Colonel Outram; and it is well known, that at Koheera the Ameer's family and army are remaining, and Colonel Outram, having delayed in coming here, we hope that your Excellency on no account will move further on, because that will be entirely unfriendly; and it is contrary to the laws of the British, and that of the friends, and it is improper. The army which is at Koheera, is only meant for protecting the baggage and families of Meer Roostum. We hope your Excellency will not think otherwise.

No. 472.

Major Outram to Sir C. Napier.

On board the "Planet" steamer, 15 miles above Hyderabad, 6 p.m. Feb. 15, 1843.

Sir,

MY dispatches of the last few days will have led you to expect that my earnest endeavours to effect an amicable arrangement with the Ameers of Sinde would fail; and it is with much regret I have now to report that their Highnesses have commenced hostilities by attacking my residence this morning, which, after four hours' most gallant defence by my honorary escort, the

Light Company of Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment, commanded by Captain Conway, I was compelled to evacuate, in consequence of our ammunition running short.

At 9 A.M. this morning, a dense body of cavalry and infantry* took post on three sides of the Agency compound, (the fourth being defended by the "Planet" steamer, about 500 yards' distant,) in the gardens and houses which immediately command the inclosure, and which it was impossible to hold with our limited numbers; a hot fire was opened by the enemy, and continued incessantly for four hours, but all their attempts to enter the Agency inclosure, although merely surrounded by a wall varying from four to five feet high, were frustrated by Captain Conway's able distribution of his small band, and the admirable conduct of every individual soldier composing it, under the gallant example of their commanding officer and his subalterns, Lieutenant Harding and Ensign Pennefather, Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment, also Captains Green, of the 21st Regiment Native Infantry, and Wells, of the 15th Regiment, who volunteered their services, to each of whom was assigned the charge of a separate quarter, also to your aide-de-camp Captain Brown, Bengal Engineers, who carried my orders to the steamer, and assisted in working her guns and directing her flanking fire. Our ammunition being limited to forty rounds per man, the officers directed their whole attention to reserving their fire and keeping their men close under cover, never shewing themselves or returning a shot, except when the enemy attempted to rush, or shewed themselves in great numbers, consequently great execution was done with trifling expenditure of ammunition, and with little loss. Our hope of receiving a reinforcement and a supply of ammunition by the "Satellite" steamer (hourly expected) being disappointed, on the arrival of that vessel without either, shortly after the commencement of the attack, it was decided at 12 A.M., after being three hours under fire, to retire to the steamer while still we had sufficient ammunition to fight the vessel up the river; accordingly, I requested Captain Conway to keep the enemy at bay for one hour, while the property was removed, for which that time was ample, could the camp followers be induced to exert themselves; after delivering their first loads on board, however, they were so terrified at the enemy's cross fire on the clear space between the compound and the vessel, that none could be persuaded to return, except a few of the officers' servants, with whose assistance but little could be removed during the limited time we could afford, consequently much had to be abandoned, and I am sorry to find that the loss chiefly fell upon the officers and men, who were too much occupied in keeping off the enemy to be able to attend to their own interests; accordingly, after the expiration of another hour, (during which the enemy, despairing of otherwise effecting their object, had brought up six guns to bear upon us,) we took measures to evacuate the Agency. Captain Conway called in his posts, and all being united, retired in a body, covered by a few skirmishers, as deliberately as on parade, (carrying off our slain and wounded,) which, and the fire from the steam-boats, deterred the enemy from pressing on us as they might have done. All being embarked, I then directed Mr. Acting Commander Miller, commanding the "Satellite" steamer, to proceed with his vessel to the wood station, three miles up the river, on the opposite bank, to secure a sufficiency of fuel for our purposes ere it should be destroyed by the enemy, while I remained with the "Planet" to take off the barge that was moored to the shore. This being a work of some time, during which a hot fire was opened on the vessel from three guns which the enemy brought to bear on her, besides small arms; and requiring much personal exposure of the crew (especially of Mr. Cole, the commander of the vessel); I deem it my duty to bring to your favourable notice their zealous exertions on the occasion, and also to express my obligations to Messrs. Miller and Cole for the flanking fire they maintained on the enemy during their attack on the Agency, and for their support during the retirement and embarkation of the troops. The "Satellite" was

† Ascertained after the action, on the 17th, to have amounted to 8000 men under the command of Meer Shahdad Khan, (one of the principal Ameers,) his cousin Meer Mahomed Khan, Nawab Ahmed Khan Lugharee, and many principal chiefs. It was also ascertained, that the enemy lost upwards of 60 killed and more wounded in the affair, among the latter Meer Mahomed Khan.

also exposed to three guns in her progress up to the wood station, one of which she dismounted by her fire; the vessels were followed by large bodies for about three miles, occasionally opening their guns upon us to no purpose; since then we have pursued our voyage up the Indus, about fifteen miles, without molestation, and purpose to-morrow morning anchoring off Muttaree, where I expect to find your camp. Our casualties amount to two men of Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment, and one camp follower killed; and Mr. Conductor Kiely, Mr. Carlisle, agency clerk, two of the steamer's crew, four of Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment, two camp followers wounded, and four camp followers missing: total three killed, ten wounded, and four missing.

I have, &c.,

J. OUTRAM.

No. 473.

Sir Charles Napier to the Governor-General.

Meeanee, 6 miles from Hyderabad.
February 18, 1843.

My Lord,

THE forces under my command have gained a decisive victory over the army of the Ameers of Upper and Lower Sinde. A detailed account of the various circumstances which led to this action does not belong to the limited space of a hasty dispatch, I, therefore, begin with the transactions belonging to the battle. On the 14th instant, the whole body of the Ameers, assembled in full durbar, formally affixed their seals to the draft Treaty. On leaving the durbar, Major Outram and his companions were in great peril: a plot had been laid to murder them all. They were saved by the guards of the Ameers; but the next day (the 15th) the residence of Major Outram was attacked by eight thousand of the Ameers' troops, headed by one or more of the Ameers. The report of this nefarious transaction I have the honor to inclose. I heard of it at Hala, at which place the fearless and distinguished Major Outram joined me, with his brave companions in the stern and extraordinary defence of his residence against so overwhelming a force, accompanied by six pieces of cannon. On the 16th I marched to Muttaree. Having there ascertained that the Ameers were in position at Meeanee (ten miles distance,) to the number of twenty-two thousand men; and well knowing that a delay for reinforcements would both strengthen their confidence and add to their numbers, already seven times that which I commanded, I resolved to attack them, and we marched at four A.M., on the morning of the 17th; at eight o'clock the advanced guard discovered their camp; at nine we formed in order of battle, about two thousand eight hundred men of all arms and twelve pieces of artillery. We were now within range of the enemy's guns, and fifteen pieces of artillery opened upon us and were answered by our cannon. The enemy were very strongly posted; woods were on their flanks which I did not think could be turned. These two woods were joined by the dry bed of the river Fulaillee, which had a high bank. The bed of the river was nearly straight, and about 1200 yards in length. Behind this, and in both woods were the enemy posted. In front of their extreme right, and on the edge of the wood, was a village. Having made the best examinatiou of their position, which so short a time permitted, the artillery was posted on the right of the line, and some skirmishers of infantry, with the Sinde irregular horse, were sent in front, to try and make the enemy shew his force more distinctly; we then advanced from the right in echelon of battalions, refusing the left to save it from the fire of the village. The 9th Bengal light cavalry formed the reserve in rear of the left wing, and the Poona horse, together with four companies of infantry, guarded the baggage. In this order of battle we advanced, as at a review, across a fine plain, swept by the cannon of the enemy. The artillery, and Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment in line, formed the leading echelon, the 25th native infantry the second, the 12th native infantry the third, and the 1st grenadier native infantry the fourth.

The enemy was 1000 yards from our line, which soon traversed the intervening space. Our fire of musquetry opened at about 100 yards from the bank, in reply to that of the enemy, and in a few minutes the engagement became general along the bank of the river, on which the combatants fought, for about

three hours or more, with great fury, man to man. Then, my Lord, was seen the superiority of the musket and bayonet over the sword and shield and matchlock. The brave Beloochees, first discharging their matchlocks and pistols, dashed over the bank with desperate resolution, but down went these bold and skilful swordsmen under the superior power of the musket and bayonet. At one time, my Lord, the courage and numbers of the enemy against the 22nd, the 25th, and the 12th regiments, bore heavily in that part of the battle. There was no time to be lost, and I sent orders to the cavalry to force the right of the enemy's line. This order was very gallantly executed by the 9th Bengal cavalry and the Sinde horse, the details of which shall be afterwards stated to your Lordship, for the struggle on our right and centre was, at that moment, so fierce, that I could not go to the left. In this charge the 9th light cavalry took a standard and several pieces of artillery, and the Sinde horse took the enemy's camp, from which a vast body of their cavalry slowly retired, fighting. Lieutenant Fitz Gerald gallantly pursued them for two miles, and, I understand, slew three of the enemy in single combat. The brilliant conduct of these two cavalry regiments decided, in my opinion, the crisis of the action, for, from the moment the cavalry were seen in the rear of their right flank, the resistance of our opponents slackened; the 22nd Regiment forced the bank, the 25th and 12th did the same, the latter regiment capturing several guns, and the victory was decided. The artillery made great havoc among the dense masses of the enemy, and dismounted several of their guns. The whole of the enemy's artillery, ammunition, standards, and camp, with considerable stores, and some treasure, were taken.

Meer Roostum Khan, Meer Nusseer Khan, and Meer Wullee Mahomed, of Khyrpore, Meer Nusseer Khan, Meer Shadad Khan, and Meer Hoossein Khan, all of Hyderabad, came into my camp, and surrendered their swords, as prisoners of war. Their misfortunes are of their own creation, but as they are great, I returned to them their swords. They await your Lordship's orders. Their Highnesses have surrendered Hyderabad, and I shall occupy it to-morrow.

It is not to be supposed that so hard fought an engagement could be sustained without considerable loss on both sides. That of the British force is 256 men killed and wounded. The enemy is generally supposed to have lost 5000. Major Teesdale, while animating his sepoys, dashed on horseback over the bank amidst the enemy, and was instantly shot and sabred, dying like a glorious soldier.

Major Jackson, in like manner, rushed forward; two brave havildars followed him; too far advanced before their men, they fell under the sabres of the enemy, but it is said not before he killed several.

Captains Meade, Tew, and Cookson, with Lieutenant Wood, all fell honorably, urging on the assault with unmitigated valour.

Lieutenant-Colonel Pennefather was severely wounded, as with the high courage of a soldier he led his regiment up the desperate bank of the Fulaillee. Major Wyllie, Captains Tucker and Conway, Lieutenants Harding and Phayre, were all wounded while gloriously animating their men to sustain the shock of numbers. And now, my Lord, I have to say, that British Officers could not shew greater gallantry in leading their men into action, than did the Queen's and Company's officers on this day, and the troops well maintained their reputation.

From the heads of departments and regiments I have received every assistance throughout the whole campaign, and in the battle.

The gallant charge of the Bengal cavalry was intrepidly led by Lieutenant-Colonel Pattle, second in command, and Major Story; nor were the Sinde horse, under Captain Jacob, idle. To this able soldier and his regiment I am indebted for the most active services, long previous to, and during the combat. He won the enemy's camp, from which he drove a body of three or four thousand cavalry.

Major Lloyd powerfully worked his artillery, ably seconded by Captains Whitlie and Hutt. The destruction caused by their guns is said to have been immense.

Major Waddington, of the engineers, has given me great assistance throughout the campaign, and, in the action, lent me his aid in carrying orders.

Nor is the country less indebted to Major Reid for his gallantry at the head of the 12th native infantry. The grenadiers, under Major Clibborn, owing to a misconception of orders, were but slightly engaged.

Major Poole, of the 22nd, and Captain Jackson, of the 25th, who succeeded to the command of those regiments, proved themselves worthy of their dangerous

posts. In the medical and commissariat department, both activity and zeal have been shewn by Dr. Dalrymple and Captain Blenkins.

Major Wyllie, Assistant Adjutant-General, was wounded while leading up the bank, and I have thereby lost, for a time, his valuable assistance; no man has been more serviceable to me in all our previous operations.

The Acting Assistant Quarter-Master-General, Lieutenant M'Murdo, of the 22nd Regiment, had his horse killed, and, while on foot leading some soldiers in a desperate dash down the enemy's side of the bank, he cut down a chieftain. He has greatly assisted me by his activity and zeal during the whole of our operations. Allow me to recommend to your Lordship's notice and protection Major M'Pherson, my Aide-de-camp, an old soldier of the light division, from whom I have received that assistance which was expected from a veteran of the 43rd regimeut. To my acting Aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Pelly, I am much indebted in many ways, both during the campaign, and in the action; as also to Lieutenant Thompson, 9th light eavalry, who acted as my Orderly Officer during the day, and Lieutenant Younghusband, Staff Officer.

Captain Henderson, of the Madras engineers, took a standard, and did good service with his excellent little band of sappers and miners, not only in this engagement, but through the campaign. His Lieutenants, Boileau and Outlaw, have also distinguished themselves.

Innumerable are the individual acts of intrepidity which took place between our soldiers and their opponents, too numerous for detail in this dispatch, yet well meriting a record. I hope that your Lordship will pardon the length of this letter, written in the midst of great interruptions, and at various times.

Finally, I trust for receiving indulgence from one who so well knows how difficult my position has been for the last five months, up to the present moment, and how hard I have laboured, and how much I have risked to avoid a recourse to arms. This sanguinary engagement has been forced upon me by the duplicity of the Ameers, though I must say that, until the attack upon the Residency, neither Maior Outram, nor myself, believed they were resolved to fight, and against which duplicity, I never ceased to warn them. My conscience acquits me of the blood which has been shed. The tyrannical and deceitful Ameers brought on the battle, the fierce tribe of Beloochee robbers were resolved that it should be so, and bravely did they execute their resolution.

I perceive that I have omitted to mention three officers well worthy of being named. To Captain Tait, of the Poona horse, I entrusted charge of the baggage on this day of battle, and I have no doubt that the steadiness, and imposing attitude of the detachment under his command, held the enemy aloof, for, I assure your Lordship, no post gave me greater anxiety than that of the baggage guard. Lieutenants Leeson and Brennan, have, throughout the whole campaign, been of the greatest use as Baggage Master and Provost Marshal, and, during the action, Lieutenant Brennan was scarcely from my side a moment, except when conveying orders; nor will I omit to mention the Moonshee Ali Akbar, an Arab, who exhibited the coolest courage, and attended me everywhere.

I ought to have observed in the body of this dispatch, that I had, the night before the action, detached Major Outram in the steamers, with 200 sepoys, to set fire to the wood, in which we understood the enemy's left flank was posted. This was an operation of great difficulty aud danger, but would have been most important to the result of the battle. However, the enemy had moved about eight miles to their right, during the night, and Major Outram executed his task without difficulty at the hour appointed, viz., nine o'clock, and from the field we observed the smoke of the burning wood arise. I am strongly inclined to think that this circumstance had some effect on the enemy. But it deprived me of the able services of Major Outram, Captain Green, and Lieutenants Brown and Wells, together with 200 men, which I much regretted for their sakes and for my own, for I much wanted the officers; and here I hope your Lordship will pardon me for saying, that the want of European officers, in the native regiments at this period, endangered the success of the action. The sepoy is a brave and excellent soldier, but, like all soldiers, he expects to be led on in certain moments, and he looks to his European officer, if he misses him, the greatest dastard. Three times I saw them retreat, evidently because the officers had fallen, when another appeared and rallied them, they at once followed him. This, my Lord, accounts for the great number of European officers killed, in proportion to the whole. I am sure that in observing

tion of the Company's troops, the effect of which might have been so serious, I shall not be deemed presumptuous or impertinent.

The defence of the Residency by Major Outram, and the small force with him, against such numbers of the enemy, was so admirable, that I have scarcely mentioned it in the foregoing dispatch, because I propose to send your Lordship a detailed account of it, as a brilliant example of defending a military post.

I have &c.,

C. J. NAPIER.

This action was fought at Meeanee, within sight of the towers of Hyderabad.

Return of the Killed and Wounded during the Action at Meeanee, on the 17th of February, 1843.

9th Regiment Bengal Light Cavalry—one officer, three privates, nine horses killed; five officers, one havildar, twenty-eight privates, thirty-five horses, wounded.

Sinde Horse—twenty-three horses killed; seventeen privates, twenty-one horses, wounded.

2nd Company, 2nd Battalion, Camel Battery—two privates, two horses, wounded.

3rd Company, 3rd Battalion, Golundaze Horse and Mule Battery—one private killed; one havildar, one private, four horses, wounded.

C. Company Madras Sappers and Miners—one private wounded,

Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment—one officer, one serjeant, twenty-two privates, killed; five officers, one serjeant, forty-eight privates, wounded.

1st Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry—one private killed; four privates, wounded.

12th Regiment Native Infantry—three officers, one havildar, one drummer, ten privates, killed; two officers, two havildars, forty-three privates, one dooly bearer, wounded.

25th Regiment Native Infantry—one officer, two havildars, fourteen privates killed; two officers, two havildars, one drummer, twenty-five privates, wounded.

Staff—one officer wounded; one horse killed.

Total—six officers, four serjeants and havildars, one drummer, fifty-one privates, killed; sixteen officers, seven serjeants and havildars, one drummer, one hundred and sixty-nine privates, one dooly bearer, wounded; thirty-three horses killed, sixty-two wounded.

Grand Total—sixty-two officers and men, thirty-three horses killed, one-hundred and ninety four officers and men, sixty-two horses, wounded.

9th Regiment Light Cavalry—Lieut. Bt. Captain and Adjutant Cookson, killed; Captain A. Tucker, Lt. Bt. Captain S. Smith, Lt. H. G. C. Plowden, Ensign J. H. Firth, wounded.

Her Majesty's 22nd Regiment—Captain W. W. Tew, killed; Lieut.-Col. J. L. Pennefather, Captain Conway, Lieut. F. P. Harding, Ensign R. Pennefather, Ensign H. Bowden, wounded.

12th Regiment Native Infantry—Captain and Bt. Major Jackson, Lt. and Bt. Captain Meade, Lieutenant Wood, killed; Ensign Holbrow, wounded.

25th Regiment Native Infantry—Major Teesdale, killed, Lieut. Qr.-M. Phayre, Lieut. Bourdillon, wounded.

Staff—Major Wyllie, Assist. Adjt.-Gen. S. and B. wounded; one horse [illegible] under Lieut. Mc Murdo, Acting Assistant Quartermaster-General.

C. NAPIER,
Major-General.

No. 474.

Notification by the Governor-General of India.

Palace of Agra, March 5, 1843.

THE Governor-General had earnestly hoped that the new provisions to which various acts in contravention of their existing engagements, and various indications of hostility, had compelled him to require the assent of the Ameers of Sinde, would have been carried into full effect, as they had been agreed to by their Highnesses, without a recurrence to arms.

This hope has been disappointed.

The Ameers having signed the new Treaty proposed to them on the 14th of February, attacked on the following day with a large force the residence of the British Commissioner. In this treacherous attack they were repulsed. On the 17th Major-General Sir Charles Napier gained a decisive victory over their whole army, and on the 20th the British troops occupied the city of Hyderabad.

Six of the Ameers delivered their swords to the British General upon the field of battle. All their guns, ammunition, and treasure, were taken, together with their camp.

The Beloochees lost 5000 men.

Thus has victory placed at the disposal of the British Government the country on both banks of the Indus from Sukkur to the Sea, with the exception of such portions thereof as may belong to Meer Ali Moorad of Khyrpore, and to any other of the Ameers who may have remained faithful to his engagements.

The Governor-General cannot forgive a treacherous attack upon a Repre-representative of the British Government, nor can he forgive hostile aggression prepared by those who were in the act of signing a treaty.

It will be the first object of the Governor-General to use the power victory has placed in his hands, in the manner most conducive to the freedom of trade, and to the prosperity of the people of Sinde so long misgoverned.

To reward the fidelity of allies by substantial marks of favour, and so to punish the crime of treachery in Princes, as to deter all from its commission, are further objects which the Governor-General will not fail to effect.

To Major-General Sir Charles Napier, and to the brave troops he commanded, the Governor-General offers the tribute of his own admiration, and of the gratitude of the Government and People of India.

The bravery of the enemy against whom they were engaged, has enhanced their glory—the most decisive victory has been gained upon the best fought field.

In perpetual commemoration of this brilliant achievement, the 2nd company 2nd battalion, and the 3rd company 3rd battalion of Bombay Artillery, and the C. company of the Madras Sappers and Miners will bear upon their appointments, and the 9th regiment of Bengal Light Cavalry, the Poona Horse, and the Sinde Horse, upon their standards and appointments, and the 12th and 25th regiments of Bombay Native Infantry, upon their colours and appointments, the word "Hyderabad, 1843."

The regiment of Sinde Horse is on its present establishment permanently attached to the army of Bombay.

The Governor-General will not further anticipate the measures which the Home Authorities, informed, before they can receive his despatches, of the victory which has been obtained, may think fit to adopt for the purpose of marking their high sense of the merits of those by whom so great a service has been performed.

The Governor-General directs that a salute of twenty-one guns be fired at all the stations of the army.

By order, &c.,
J. THOMASON,
Officiating Secretary to the Government with the Governor-General.

No. 475.

The Governor-General to the Secret Committee.

(Extract.) *Palace of Agra, March* 13 *(No.* 17*),* 1843.

ALTHOUGH it was my anxious desire that a final and satisfactory settlement should be made with the Ameers of Sinde, without a recurrence to arms, I cannot but feel that the victory of the 17th of February has placed us in a position which will be ultimately more advantageous than that I had endeavoured to secure by pacific treaty.

In occupation of Kurachee, and the Island of Bukkur, and of both the adjacent towns of Sukkur and Roree, with armed steamers upon the Indus, and the means, during seven or eight months of the year, of rapidly reinforcing the troops at those stations, from Bombay and Ferozepore respectively, we should have held a position which would have practically protected the navigation, and have given to us military possession of the Lower Indus; still, it was impossible to depend upon the continued observance of treaties by the Ameers, notwithstanding their release, under the new treaty proposed to them, from pecuniary payments, the never failing source of bitterness of feeling, and of dispute.

Delusion as to the circumstances under which we retired from Affghanistan, and ignorance of our real strength, which they never experienced, would have induced a brave and barbarous people of plunderers to avail themselves of the first occasion in which we might be involved in difficulties, to endeavour to throw off engagements which they entered into with reluctance, and to compel our retirement from the Indus.

The war, which could not be for ever avoided, would have been forced upon us at the most inconvenient time, and might have produced a serious diversion of our force when we most needed it.

Fortunately, the treachery of the Ameers, and the overweening confidence, and the reckless violence of the Beloochees, have brought on a crisis at the period at which we could with least embarrassment encounter it, and the result has been the most decisive victory gained on the best fought field.

Sir Charles Napier had my instructions more than three months before the battle of Meeanee. He was during all that period at the head of a preponderating force; but, acting with extreme forbearance, in the true spirit of a generous soldier, he earnestly endeavoured to effect the objects of the Government without using the military means at his disposal.

The firmness of the language he adopted, and the energy of his measures, were best calculated to control a barbarous Durbar; and, had the Ameers been entirely masters over their own troops, it seems to be doubtful, even now, whether he would not have effected his purpose, and carried the Treaty into execution without actual hostilities.

The events which have occurred give to Sir Charles Napier the peculiar glory which attends the most decisive success in war, obtained in the prosecution of measures which had for their object the preservation of peace.

Report, 1842—*continued.*

Trinidad—continued.

Deteriorated state of the colony in 1841, as compared with 1823, *Burnley* 923–936——The condition of the colony was worse in 1841 than at any former period, *Ib.* 1054——Great increase in the revenues of Trinidad in the last 10 years; this is a proof of increased prosperity of the peasantry; there has been great increase of distress and difficulty simultaneously among the planters, *Church* 1424–1426.

See also *Grenada* and the *Principal Headings of the Index.*

Truck System:

British Guiana.—The truck system was formerly in practice in the colony; it has been abandoned very generally since 1840, *Scoble* 4362–4365.

Jamaica.—The truck system does not at all prevail in witness's district; he has always paid them in money, *Spalding* 5872–5875——Witness has never resorted to the truck system on the estates which he has managed, *M'Cornock* 4858——Neither witness, nor any person connected with him, ever kept a shop on the estate for the supply of the negroes, *Browne* 6511.

St. Vincent.—The negroes would not submit to the truck system, *Grant* 577.

U.

Uncultivated Lands (Jamaica). Amount of uncultivated land in Jamaica, *M'Cornock* 4824——Proportion the uncultivated land of Jamaica bears to the cultivated, *Lowndes* 4957–4960——There is a very large proportion of the island of Jamaica uncultivated, *Spalding* 5515. 5755, 5756——The quantity of land that has been thrown out of cultivation is not of any great extent, *Candler* 7896–7899.——*See* also *Jamaica.* *Vincent, St.*

United States. There has been a small immigration from the United States to Jamaica; arrangements under which they were imported; cost per head; some of them have returned; they were not suited for the purpose, *Spalding* 5709–5717——There is no reasonable probability of deriving any large supply of labour from the United States of America, *Metcalfe* 7455–7457.——*See* also *America,* North. *Immigration,* II. 4. ii.

V.

Vagrant Laws (British Guiana). There is a vagrant law in British Guiana; it is sufficient, *Allen* 3523, 3524.

Value of Estates:

Antigua.—Landed property in the island is more valuable now than it was in times of slavery, *Nugent* 2951–2955. 2986, 2987. 2989.

Barbados.—No estates in Barbados have been thrown out of cultivation since the establishment of freedom; very few have been sold; they have been sold at a less price than during slavery, *Sharpe* 1686–1689. 1691–1700——The improved state of things within the last two years has improved the value of property generally in Barbados, *Carrington* 1841, 1842.

British Guiana.—Value of property in the rural districts, *Scoble* 4294.

Jamaica.—Change witness has found produced in the value and circumstances of his property of late years, *Bernal* 6446, 6447.

St. Kitt's.—The value of property has decreased, *Estridge* 3234–3236. 3268–3271.

Trinidad.—Difficulty of deciding whether the value of land has fallen or not since freedom, *Burnley* 841–844——Some of the free labourers have purchased land at a very high rate, *Ib.* 845——Whilst the general revenue of the colony has more than doubled, and the physical comforts of the labourers have increased, the sugar estates have diminished in value, and now do not return a fair interest for the capital embarked in them, *Ib.* 1011–1013——Extent to which estates in Trinidad have decreased in value; principal cause of this decrease, *Church* 1231–1234.

See also *Depreciation of Estates.* *George Town* (British Guiana). *Grove Estate* (Jamaica). *Taxation.*

Value of Slaves (British Guiana). Value put upon the negroes in British Guiana previous to the emancipation; amount of compensation paid, *Barkly* 2526, 2527.

Vincent, St. The general character of the island is hilly, *Grant* 113–115——One-third of the island is unoccupied Crown land, *Ib.* 135–138——St. Vincent is not liable to frequent dry weather, *Ib.* 239–243——One-third of the estates in St. Vincent are managed by resident proprietors, *Ib.* 248, 249——The island of St. Vincent is said to contain 84,000 acres, and the small islands connected with it about 8,700; of these 35,000 acres are

Report, 1842—*continued.*

Vincent, St.—continued.

occupied by estates, leaving uncultivated mountain land and mountain provision ground, 57,700 acres, *Grant* 391——Return of the quantity of sugar produced, the number of labourers attached to sugar estates, and the exports and the imports of the island of St. Vincent, during slavery, apprenticeship, and freedom, *Ev. p.* 31.

See also the *Principal Headings of this Index.*

WAGES:

I. *In Antigua.*

II. *In Barbados.*

III. *In British Guiana*

1. General Rate of Wages; how paid; whether adequate or not.
2. Complaints made by the Negroes of their Wages not being paid regularly.
3. Strike for Wages.
4. Papers laid before the Committee.

IV. *In Jamaica:*

1. Generally.
2. Rate of Wages; how regulated; whether sufficient or not.
3. Regularity in the Payment of Wages.
4. Impossibility of the Proprietors paying the present Rate of Wages; Difficulty of lowering them.

V. *In St. Kitt's.*

VI. *In Trinidad:*

1. Generally.
2. Rate of Wages; how paid.
3. Attempts made to reduce Wages; Expediency of such Reduction.

VII. *In St. Vincent.*

I. *In Antigua:*

The labourers have a dwelling and ground in part payment of wages, *Nugent* 2750–2753——Usual rate of wages given to a plantation labourer; number of hours' labour required, *Ib.* 2757, 2758. 2760–2777.

II. *In Barbados:*

Rate of wages paid the labourers; allowances beyond money payments; how the amount of wages is regulated, *Sharpe* 1485–1496. 1501–1503——Reasons for supposing the wages paid to be more than sufficient to support a family, *Ib.* 1599——Witness occasionally employs labourers who are not resident on his estate; different rate of wages paid to such labourers, and to those resident upon the estate, *Ib.* 1707, 1708——Wages received by labourers on witness's estate, *Carrington* 1732–1737——Allowance received by the negroes in addition to money wages, *Ib.* 1753.

III. *In British Guiana:*

1. General Rate of Wages; how paid; whether adequate or not:

Usual wages for common field task, *Campbell* 1949, 1950. 1955–1960——The wages are paid weekly, *Ib.* 1981, 1982——The planters combined lately to regulate the rate of wages, but they failed, *Ib.* 2312——Competition between the planters for the hire of labourers; uniformity of the rate of wages, *Barkly* 2530——Amount of wages witness would consider as reasonable, *Allen* 3759–3786——Amount of wages paid for a day's labour or task; with the provision grounds they are adequate, *Scoble* 4230–4240. 4371–4381.

2. Complaints made by the Negroes of their Wages not being paid regularly:

Labourers frequently complain to magistrates when their wages are withheld for bad work, and generally recover them, *Campbell* 1994–2003——Complaints on the part of the negroes of the non-payment of their wages at the proper time, *Barkly* 2464——Complaints of the negroes that their wages are not paid regularly; manner in which, and when they are paid, *Scoble* 4243, 4244——Name of the magistrate who has given his concurrence to the system of paying the negro half a guilder a day for the days on which he does not work, *Allen* 3493–3496.

3. Strike for Wages:

The negroes have refused to cut the canes when ripe, unless at an advance of wages, *Barkly* 2516, 2517——Witness has never known the negroes refuse to cut the canes when ripe, without an advance of wages, *Allen* 3577, 3578.

4. Papers

Report, 1842—*continued.*

WAGES—III. *In British Guiana*—continued.

4. *Papers laid before the Committee:*

Copy of despatch from Governor Light to Lord Stanley, dated 1st January 1842, acknowledging circular of November 29, and copies of correspondence respecting reduction of wages in Trinidad; determination of planters in Demerara to adopt similar measures, and consequent discontent of labourers; enclosing copy of rules and regulations to be observed on the west coast of Demerara, and of correspondence consequent on the publication thereof by proprietors, *App. p.* 642——Copy of despatch from Governor Light to Lord Stanley, dated 12th April 1842, respecting the differences between employers and labourers with respect to wages; the labourers prefer wages to a share of the profits, *Ib.* 713.

IV. *In Jamaica:*

1. Generally:

Proprietors are not compelled by law to pay the labourers at all if they do not work five days in the week, unless good cause can be shown, *M'Cornock* 4628–4636——The labourers working five days a week can earn in money wages from 6*s.* to 10*s.* a week, *Ib.* 4637——Difference intended to be made between the wages now payable to a free labourer in Jamaica, and the wages to be paid to the imported labourer from Africa, *Ib.* 4842–4851. 4923–4926——The present rise of wages did not prevail generally throughout the island immediately after the cessation of the apprenticeship, *Ib.* 4866–4869.

If there be only punctuality and regularity in the payment of the wages, the labourers are willing to work nine hours a day, and to give four or five days per week, at the rate of 1*s.* 6*d.* per day, *Knibb* 6127–6134—— Proportion which the wages bear to the whole expenses of an estate, *Ib.* 6356–6361——Planters in Jamaica are not paying large wages out of their capital, *Candler* 7900–7903.

2. Rate of Wages; how regulated; whether sufficient or not:

The amount of wages paid to the labourers is regulated by specific contract, *Lowndes* 5026–5028——Rate of wages paid on witness's estate; there was a regular scale, depending upon the number of hours the negroes worked; sometimes it answered, at others it did not, *Barrett* 5143–5151——Amount which witness would consider a fair rate of wages, *Ib.* 5293–5297——The wages are not the subject of any contract; there is an understood rate of wages in the district; they have received the same since the commencement of freedom, *Spalding* 5629–5631——Evidence respecting the rate of wages, and how paid, *Knibb* 5965–5974——Meeting of the planters subsequent to the period of apprenticeship, for the purpose of regulating the price of labour; result of this meeting, *Ib.* 5977–5985. 6139–6146.

The rate of wages does not vary materially in different parts of the island, *Knibb* 6189–6190——The rate of wages ought to depend upon the price of produce, *Ib.* 6281, 6282. 6352–6354——Rate of wages paid on witness's estates, *Bernal* 6461–6463.

Whether the present rate of wages is more than adequate to the maintenance of the negro or not, *Knibb* 6149–6182——Rate of wages paid by witness after the people first became free; conditions as relates to the use of house and grounds, *Browne* 6501–6512——1*s.* 6*d.* a day wages, and 2*s.* a week for the rent of a house and grounds, is a fair rate of wages; there are a great many periods of the year when the negroes cannot be employed, *Ib.* 6533–6535. 6638——Rate of wages of the different classes of field labourers in Jamaica; amount of a day's work, and how ascertained, *Candler* 7616–7622——Lengthened examination with respect to the wages of the labourers, and the rents paid by them for their houses and provision grounds, *Ib.* 7769–7792. 7812–7828.

3. Regularity in the Payment of Wages:

Witness is not aware of any complaints having been made upon the score of wages not being regularly paid in money, *M'Cornock* 4919-4922——Improvement which took place in the payment of wages in the year 1840; to what this may be attributed, *Knibb* 6135–6137.

4. Impossibility of the Proprietors paying the present Rate of Wages; Difficulty of lowering them:

The proprietors cannot afford to pay the present rate of wages; witness has tried the experiment of lowering wages; it failed, *Spalding* 5632–5641——Rate of wages paid by witness; failure of an attempt to establish a reduced rate; the negro may exact what he pleases, *Geddes* 6703–6715. 6730–6735——If the planter found the present rate of wages such as he could not pay, the negro would not take a lower rate; he would betake himself to the cultivation of waste lands, which can be purchased at nominal prices, *Ib.* 6716, 6717——The remuneration in the island is found too expensive for the estates to afford; difficulty of diminishing this remuneration, *Metcalfe* 7338, 7339——Proprietors cannot afford to pay the present rate of wages in the present condition of their estates, *Lowndes* 5054–5061——The habits of idleness of the negroes may be attributed to the high wages they obtain; objections to trying the experiment of lowering the wages, *M'Cornock* 4639–4643.

Report, 1842—*continued.*

Wages—continued.

V. *In St. Kitt's:*

Wages are higher now than when freedom commenced; cause of this increase, *Estridge* 3152-3155——The wages are paid in money without exception, *Ib.* 3274-3279.

VI. *In Trinidad:*

1. Generally:

The rate of wages is very high; the inhabitants could pay even at this rate, if there were continuous labour, *Burnley* 786, 787——Whether, if labour were rendered more continuous, the planters in Trinidad could afford to pay the present rate of wages, *Church* 1343, 1344——An increase of wages would render the negroes more indisposed to labour, *Ib* 1352-1359.

2. Rate of Wages; how paid:

Rate of wages to an able-bodied labourer when not employed upon task-work, *Burnley* 599. 601, 602——How the wages to witness's labourers are paid; average rate of money wages, *Church* 1098-1102. 1126-1129. 1191, 1192——Wages witness pays his labourers, *Bushe* 3857-3861.

3. Attempts made to reduce Wages, and Expediency of such Reduction:

Attempt made to reduce the money wages, *Burnley* 617——The inhabitants do not look so much to the reduction in the rate of wages as to increased competition among the labourers creating steady and better work, *Ib.* 1065-1070——Explanation of part of former evidence with respect to Question 792, relating to the necessary annual expenditure to be laid out in immigration, for the purpose of so reducing the wages as to enable the cultivation to be carried on at a profit, *Ib.* 1285, 1286——A sufficient number of immigrants would lower wages, *Church* 1360, 1361——The inducement of higher wages, allowances, &c. has been tried to no effect; the planters cannot afford to pay the present rate of wages; an attempt has been made to reduce them, *Bushe* 3911-3942. 3981, 3982. 3997, 3998.

Reduction of wages witness contemplates would enable him to pursue the cultivation of his estates profitably, *Church* 1391-1395. 1402——Expediency of reducing wages, *Bushe* 4040-4054——A reduction of wages is necessary to prevent a third of the estates being thrown out of cultivation, *Ib.* 4086-4091. 4132, 4133——To the extent it has been tried, the reduction of wages has fully succeeded, *Ib.* 4176, 4177.

VII. *In St. Vincent:*

Wages are paid weekly or otherwise, according to the convenience of the labourer, *Grant*, 48——Amount of daily wages paid to different classes of labourers, *Ib.* 54, 55. 57——As yet no complaints are made of the rate of wages, *Ib.* 350-354——Rate of wages for different kinds of work during slavery, apprenticeship and freedom, *Ib.* 532-535.

See also *African Immigrants*, I. II. 2. *Allowances to Labourers. Capital*, 2. *Classes of Labourers. Competition of Labour. Continuous Labour*, II. 1. 2. 3. iv. *Contracts of Hiring*, 4. *Cultivation of Sugar*, IV. 2. 3. *Economy of Labour. Emigration*, I. 3. *English Labourers* (St. Vincent). *Free Labour. Free Settlements. Golden Grove Estate* (Jamaica). *Hours of Labour. Immigration. Labour*, II. 1. 2. v. 5. *Luxuries. Manufacture of Sugar. Medical Attendance. Money Wages. Rents. Scale of Labour. Strikes for Wages. Tariff of Labour. Task-Work*, 2. *Truck System.*

Waste Lands:

Antigua.—Proportion of land in Antigua out of cultivation; there is no Crown land, or any public land of that sort, *Nugent* 2946, 2947.

Jamaica.—Introducing a large number of Africans and locating them on the waste lands would be no detriment to the negroes at present in the island, *Knibb* 6381-6386.

See also *Crown Lands.*

Watermills. See *Machinery*, 4.

Weeding. See *Cultivation of Sugar*, VI.

Wesleyan Missionary Society (British Guiana). Contributions of the colony of British Guiana to the Wesleyan Missionary Society, *Barkly* 2447.

West Prospect Estate (Jamaica). Evidence respecting the abandonment of West Prospect Estate; loss sustained by witness thereby, *Spalding* 5802-5808.

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on 24 February, 2020